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THE AMIS, BREWER, PETTEY,

LANGFORD and WILSON *4 other*

FAMILIES, of

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

SKETCHES AND DATA

BY

(His Signature Here)

A. B. AMIS, SR.

This is an explanation as to how a second printing of the original work Sketches and Data of the Amis, Brewer, Pettey, Langford and Wilson Families of Newton County, Mississippi--of Mr. A. B. Amis, Sr. came about.

In the summer of 1937, I, Fred F. Gordy, was attending school at the University of Mississippi. I had in my possession one of the original six copies prepared by Mr. A. B. Amis, Sr. This copy was borrowed by my mother, Mrs. Mattie Lack Gordy who was before her marriage Mattie K. Lack, daughter of Gillie L. Lack and Ida V. Graham. Ida V. Graham was the daughter of J. B. Graham and Mirna Woodson Amis. Mirna Woodson Amis was the daughter of John Woodson Amis and Martha Watkins Amis (old mother).

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This copy was borrowed from Mrs. Ruby Graham Underwood of Senechal, Mississippi. Mrs. Ruby Graham was the daughter of J. B. Graham and Mirna Woodson Amis. Mirna Woodson Amis was the daughter of John Woodson Amis and Martha Watkins Amis (old mother).

I met Miss M. L. Underwood, Professor of Office Administration at the University of Mississippi, in order that she might have access to this sketch in her desire.

Amis
Amis, Brewer, Pettey, Langford,
and Wilson families of Newton
County, Miss.

Had it not been for the encouragement, and work contributed by Miss M. L. Underwood, this sketch would not have been printed.

Greenwodo

Thirty-five copies have been printed. Of this number, a copy will be presented to the University of Mississippi, Doctor Junior College, Clarke Memorial Library and the University of Mississippi Library.

Recd May 26-1978

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This copy was borrowed from Mrs. Ruby Graham Underwood of Conehatta, Mississippi. Mrs. Ruby Graham was the daughter of J. D. Graham and Mirna Woodson Amis. Mirna Woodson Amis was the daughter of John Woodson Amis and Martha Wadkins Amis (Old Mother).

I met Miss Effie Sue McAmis, Assistant Professor of Office Administration, at the University. Upon her suggestion, we proceeded to duplicate the original in order that more of the Amis, Brewer, Pettey, Langford and Wilson descendants might have access to this valuable document; which was Mr. A. B. Amis's unfilled desire.

Had it not been for the interest, encouragement, and work contributed by Miss McAmis, these copies would not have been printed.

Thirty-five copies have been printed. Of this number, a copy will be presented to the libraries of the University of Mississippi, Decatur Junior College, Clarke Memorial College and Greenwood Leflore Library.

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FOREWORD

For several years past I have had in mind the collection of the necessary data for a biographical sketch of all members of the Amis, Pettey, Langford and Wilson families; but first one thing, then another, has prevented the prosecution of this purpose as seriously as I would have liked. However, I have gathered some data, and inasmuch as my time and attention are now devoted to other matters, I think it best to make a record of the facts which I have learned from others, as well as those of which I have personal knowledge; so that if some one else shall, at a future date, desire to continue or extend the investigation the work will be, to some extent, facilitated. My data is not complete, and for that reason the sketches are necessarily incomplete; but I believe it is reasonably accurate as far as it goes. Some of the personal sketches are fuller than others for the reason that I knew more about some of them than I did of others.

I have also included a short sketch of the Amis family, in general, and have attempted to trace the genealogy of John Woodson Amis back to the progenitors of the family in America. This attempt is, of course, a mere inference from the data before me, though it seems to be reasonably certain. There may be some errors in names or dates, because I found it a hard matter to keep them straight. Of course I correct all errors that came to my attention, but there may be some I did not notice. However I can make the same plea the old fiddler did, who put up a sign in the ball room, "Don't shoot the fiddler, he's doing his best." And so if any one finds that I have traded off some of his or her children for those of some one else, or have unduly accelerated the birth rate, I hope it will not be thought that it was done intentionally.

Most of the sketches were written and the biographical data was collected and arranged several years ago. The publication was delayed because it seemed that I could not well spare the money to have it done. So I kept waiting until I felt I could spare it, but financial matters do not get any better. So I am making a number of typewritten copies of it for those who may be interested.

I have written these sketches for the information and entertainment of my kindred, as a labor of love for all of them; and I trust they will look with lenient eye on all imperfections therein contained. But if anyone doesn't like them, I feel just like John Farmer, the hotel keeper at Forest, did about the hound dog. Once when I was there he came out on the front porch and begun to ring the bell for dinner, when an old hound, out in the street, threw up his head and begun to howl. John stopped, stared at him for a few seconds and blurted out, "Shut up, sir, you don't have to eat it if you don't want it."

A. B. Amis, Sr.

Meridian, Miss.
August 1st, 1936

I

TWO BRANCHES OF THE FAMILY

In my investigations, covering several years, I have found that there are two main branches of the family claiming a common origin and tracing their descent back to old Virginia ancestors. One branch spells the name "Amis" and the other spells it "Amiss."

The "Amiss" branch does not seem to be quite so numerous nor so widely dispersed as the "Amis" branch. I have located various members of that family in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Dothan, Alabama, and Luroy, Virginia; and the records of the Universities of Virginia and North Carolina, show that various members of it have been students in those institutions at various times during the past hundred years. There is a town, or village, in Rappahannock County, Virginia, named "Amissville", but whether any of either branch of the family reside there now I do not know. One member of the family, who lives at Baton Rouge, has accumulated considerable data in reference to the family, and is of the opinion that both families had a common ancestry in Virginia, some two hundred years ago, and that the original spelling of the name was "Amis."

The "Amis" branch of the family seems to be more numerous and more widely scattered over the country. I have located various members of it in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Missouri and New Mexico; and have had a very pleasant correspondence with some of them. Some of the family in various parts of the country have been prominent people, notable Capt. Rufus Amis, of Virgilina, Virginia, Col. James S. Amis, of Oxford, North Carolina, Judge Amis, of Arkansas, and his brother, the famous Baptist preacher, who waged such a long and strenuous fight against gambling houses and race track gamblers at Hot Springs, some twenty years ago, or more.

The records of the Universities of Virginia, North Carolina, Arkansas, Alabama and Mississippi, show that a number of the family have been college students, at various times as far back as 1801, when Thomas Gayle Amis, graduated as a member of the first class of the University of North Carolina. Doubtless the records of many of the other older colleges would show that other members of the family attended as students from time to time; but I have not made any inquiry except as above indicated. Some members of the family have been lawyers, some have been preachers, some doctors, and some merchants; but so far as I have been able to learn, the great majority of them have been, and still are, farmers by occupation. In their religious convictions, most of them are Baptists or Presbyterians, though there are a few Methodists among them, and at least one Methodist preacher, Rev. Lewis Amis, of Columbia, Tennessee.

II

ORIGIN OF THE FAMILY

While it seems to be quite definitely settled that the founder of the American branch of the family settled in America more than two hundred years ago, yet it is not clear to my mind as to what country he came from nor what his

original nationality was. Mrs. Margaret Campbell Pilcher (a daughter of Governor Campbell, of Tennessee) in her book entitled, "historical Sketches of the Campbell, Pilcher and Kindred Families", in her sketch of the Amis family says:

"There was a settlement of Huguenots on the James River in Virginia, called Manakin Town. It was settled some time in the earlier part of the eighteenth century, and among them was the family Amis. It is supposed that this family left France at the time there was such a great exodus of the best citizens of that country, just after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes (1685); but some years previous to this there was a family of Amis in South Carolina. Mrs. William Layman of St. Helena, California, says that her father, Thomas Amis, of North Carolina, told her that the family were Huguenots, who left France after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, going first to the French West India Islands, then to Virginia, and that the name was "Amie", not Amis, as it was afterwards spelled in America. Another member of this family says that the family tradition has always been that upon leaving France, just after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, the family sailed for the Barbadoes, but remained there only a short time, then went to the Colony of Virginia, and settled in Rappahannock County, establishing themselves in a home and called the settlement Amisville."

On the other hand, Edward McCready, in his book entitled, "South Carolina Under Proprietary Government", says that Thomas Amis, or Amys, was a Cacique in the colony of South Carolina in the year 1682 and was a Landgrave in the same Colony in 1697. (See note below.) This seems to show that at least one member of the family was in America prior to the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, and that he was a member of the Colonial nobility, which further indicates that he was a British subject; while the spelling of the name "Amys" corresponds quite closely to the Old English spelling of similar words and names.

Some years ago I met a gentleman, who was a native of Scotland, who told me that the name, Amis, was quite common in his native country. That reminds me that there is quite a large family in northeast Mississippi by the name of McAmis, who claim a Scotch ancestry, and say that the name clearly shows it. Some years ago I met a member of this family at Corinth, Mississippi, and he contended that the Amis family were of Scotch descent too, but that they have been away from the old Highlands so long that they have just lost the Mc. But no matter what country they came from, it seems to be reasonably certain that the ancestor, or what seems more likely, the ancestors, of the family settled in Virginia, some time prior to the year 1700, whence they spread south and west, with the general tide of immigration which subsequently populated this country.

NOTE:

The plan of the government of South Carolina, drawn up by the philosopher, John Locke, provided for Colonial nobility, the lower order being called "Caciques" and the higher order being called "Landgraves."

III

ANCESTRY OF JOHN WOODSON AMIS

The ancestor of the oldest Mississippi branch of the family was John Woodson Amis, who was born in North Carolina, September 22nd, 1795, and died in Scott County Mississippi, February 4th, 1849. My effort for several years has been to trace his ancestry back to the original progenitor of the family in America. There is no family record, to which I have access, which shows definitely who his ancestors were, not even the name or place of residence of his father.

His only child now living, is Mrs. Frances Amis Moore, who resides with her son, C. A. Moore, at Navarro, Texas. She says that her grandfather's name was William; that he lived in Wilmington, North Carolina, and that he married a Miss Woodson. About forty-five years ago, Haywood Amis, one of the old negro slaves of John Woodson Amis, told me that he was born in North Carolina and lived there until he was about fifteen years old; that his "old marster" was named William Amis, who was the father of John Woodson Amis, that his "old marster's" wife was a Woodson and that they lived near Pittsboro, in Chatham County, North Carolina. He further said that shortly after his "old marster" died, John Woodson Amis, who was then living in Wilkinson County Mississippi, went back to Pittsboro to get his share of his father's estate; that on a division of the estate, he, Haywood, a woman and two small children, all slaves, were allotted to John Woodson Amis, who loaded them all into a two horse wagon and brought them back with him to his home in Wilkinson County, Mississippi.

It seems reasonably certain therefore, that the father of John Woodson Amis, was named William Amis, that he married a Miss Woodson and that he lived and died in North Carolina. And I am inclined to think that old Haywood was right as to where he lived and died; because he spoke from his own memory. And that was the part of the state in which other members of the family lived, as shown by sundry records which I have investigated.

Mrs. Pilcher, in her sketch of the Amis family says, that the earliest members of the family, of which she could find any record, were two brothers and one sister, namely, Thomas, Frances and John Amis, who lived in Virginia, back in Colonial days; that Thomas Amis married and had two children, Thomas Jr. and Mary; That Thomas Jr. died without ever having been married, and that the male line of that branch of the family became extinct.

She says that John Amis married Mary Dillard and had two sons, Thomas and William, and three daughters, Rebecca, Annie and Frances. She then takes up the genealogy of William, son of John Amis, and Mary Dillard, and says that he was a soldier in the third North Carolina regiment of the Continental Army, in December 1776; from which it appears that he had emigrated from Virginia to North Carolina, prior to the Revolutionary War. But although she traces the line of descent from him down to forty or fifty years ago, there is nothing to show any connection with John Woodson Amis, or with William Amis, his father.

She says, also that Thomas Amis, son of John Amis and Mary Dillard, was a delegate to the North Carolina Constitutional Convention, from Halifax County, in 1775, and was a member of the Third North Carolina Regiment of the Continental Army in December 1776, as shown by the North Carolina State Records, and Saffell's

"Register of Soldiers of the Revolution of 1776"; that he married Alice Gayle and had two sons, William and Thomas Gayle, and four daughters, Mary, Alice, Frances and Rachel; that Thomas Gayle Amis graduated at the University of North Carolina in 1801 and was lost at sea, as shown by the records of the University; that one of the daughters, Mary, was married to Joseph Rogers, the founder of Rogersville, Tennessee, in 1785 and that she died there in 1833; and that William, the other son, married and left a family; but she does not state who he married nor the names of any of his children. In other words, so far as the descendants of William Amis, son of Thomas Amis and Alice Gayle are concerned, she does not show anything. And the question is, was this William Amis the father of John Woodson Amis?

The evidence seems to indicate that he was. His sister, Mary, married Joseph Rogers in 1785, and her brother William must have married somewhere about that time, probably later, and John Woodson Amis was born in 1795. Thomas Amis and his wife, Alice Gayle, lived in North Carolina prior to the Revolutionary War and their children were reared and likely married and settled there. There is no evidence of any other branch of the family except his brother William living in the state at or about that time; though another branch moved from Southampton County, Virginia, and settled in Granville County, North Carolina, some time after the year 1800. So, everything considered, I am persuaded that John Woodson Amis was the son of William Amis and Mirnia Woodson; that William Amis was the son of Thomas Amis and Alice Gayle, and Thomas Amis was the son of John Amis and Mary Dillard, who must have been at least fifty years old at the time of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

This conclusion is strengthened by the family records in the possession of Mr. W. D. Amis, who now lives at Virgilna, Virginia, near the line of North Carolina, and who is now about sixty-five years old. His father, Capt. Rufus Amis, was born in 1835, and was a student at the University of North Carolina in 1853 and 1854. The father of Rufus Amis was William Amis, whose father, William, lived in Southampton County, Virginia. William Amis, father of Rufus, moved from Southampton County Virginia, and settled near Oxford, in Granville County, North Carolina. This was about fifty miles northeast of Chatham County, and about fifty miles west of Halifax County, where Thomas Amis lived when he was elected a delegate to the North Carolina Constitutional Convention in 1775. Mr. W. D. Amis says that his father, Rufus, was the youngest of thirteen children, all of whom were born and reared in Granville County, North Carolina. Now since Rufus Amis was born in 1835 it seems clear that his father William did not move to North Carolina until after the year 1800, or more than twenty-five years after Thomas Amis and William Amis, sons of John Amis and Mary Dillard, moved there.

It is undoubtedly true that there were other branches of the family residing in Virginia at the time of the Revolutionary War, in Southampton County, Rappahannock County, and perhaps elsewhere in the State; but none of them except the two sons of John Amis and Mary Dillard, seems to have moved to North Carolina until afterward. I am therefore convinced that the ancestry of John Woodson Amis, is as above stated. How many brothers or sisters he may have had, what their names were, or where they lived, I have no information, except that he had one sister named Mirnia Woodson Amis. But who she married or where she lived, I have never heard.

IV

JOHN WOODSON AMIS

My information concerning John Woodson Amis was derived in a large measure from my Mother, who heard her father, Albert G. Petty, speak of him; from Haywood Amis, the old negro slave, above mentioned, and from Calvin H. Doolittle, son-in-law of Ascension Amis Blalock, with whom I had quite a long conversation, on the day of her funeral in 1905. My maternal grandfather, Albert G. Petty, and old Haywood knew him personally, and Calvin H. Doolittle got his information from his mother-in-law, Ascension Amis Blalock, who was the oldest child of John Woodson Amis, and I am convinced that my information is reasonably accurate.

As above stated, he was born September 22nd, 1795, in North Carolina and grew to manhood there. After reaching his majority, sometime about the year 1820, he went west across the Cumberland Mountains to some point on the Cumberland River, but just where, is not known. There he took passage on a flat-boat, the only kind then in use, down the Cumberland, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers and landed at Natchez, Mississippi. By occupation he was a mill wright, that is, a builder of grist mills, flour mills and cotton gins, to be operated either by water power or animal power. After landing at Natches he followed his trade of mill wright, in Adams, Copiah, Wilkinson and the adjoining counties. And while engaged on a job of that sort, he met Martha Wadkins, who with her sister was living with their uncle, Seth Corley, in Copiah County. Subsequently on February 10th, 1824, he and Martha Wadkins were married. After his marriage he settled near Woodville, in Wilkinson County, where he continued to reside until about 1838 or 1839. He became a land owner and a slave holder, as most other men of means were, and seems to have been highly esteemed by the people of his community.

About 1838 or 1839 he moved to Newton County and settled on a tract of land about half way between Newton and Decatur, just north of a large plantation then owned by Millanton Blalock, now owned by Tom Doolittle and others. About 1845 or 1846, he moved to Scott County and settled on the old stage road running from Jackson, Mississippi, to Livingston, Alabama, at the eastern end of the old turnpike, across Tuscalameta Swamp, where he died, February 4th, 1849. He was buried on his own farm, in the old Amis graveyard, about five or six miles northwest of Conchatta. For many years this grave yard was the neighborhood burial ground although no one has been buried there for ten or fifteen years past. A tombstone was erected at his grave many years ago, but it is now fallen down and broken in pieces.

Physically he was of spare build and a little below medium height, and at some time during his life he had lost one eye. Those who knew him after he moved to Newton County say that he was a one-eyed man. How or when he lost his eye I never heard. He was a vigorous, active man and had considerable influence in his community. In temperament he was somewhat taciturn and sometimes a little obstinate, not being inclined to argue matters much. He was rather sensitive concerning the honor of himself and his family and was not quick to forgive an injury to either. In politics he was a Whig and always voted the straight ticket. In religion he was a Baptist, being a member of old Sulphur Springs Baptist Church at the time of his death. He was a royal arch mason, being a member of Hillsboro Lodge at the time of his death. I have in my possession the original copy of the resolutions of respect and condolence passed by Hillsboro Lodge, after his death

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on March 25th, 1849, a copy of which is shown in the appendix to these sketches. His neighbors, widely scattered, in those days of sparse population, were the ancestors of the Graham, Brewer, Pettey, Eastland, Blalock, Keith, Charleton, Doolittle, Wilson, Smith and Johnson families, of Newton and Scott Counties. All of them were of the old pioneer stock, whose memory has almost faded. Their like will never be seen again.

V

MARTHA WADKINS AMIS

(OLD MOTHER)

Martha Wadkins Amis, familiarly and affectionately known as "Old Mother", was born at, or near, Macon, Georgia, June 28th 1805. Her mother was a Curle, but I do not know anything of her father or mother. She had one sister named Tempe, but if she ever had a brother I do not know it. Their father and mother died when they were quite young, and they were reared by their uncle, Seth Corley. Whether this uncle lived in Georgia or Mississippi, I do not know; but at any rate they were both living with, or visiting one of their uncles in Mississippi in 1824, and both of them married from his home. Which was the older and which married first, I have never heard, but Tempe married and settled in Covich County and her descendants are there yet, but I do not know anything about them.

On February 10th 1824, when she was not quite nineteen years old, Martha was married to John Woodson Amis, with whom she lived until her death in 1849, and to whom she bore four sons and five daughters. In 1849, at the age of forty-four, she was left a widow, but never married again. She took charge of the plantation and the slaves, and reared her family to manhood and womanhood. Her youngest daughter Frances married in 1869 and a short time afterward, I do not know just when, she sold the old home to her son-in-law, J. D. Graham, and "broke up house-keeping." She then began to live around among her children, although for many years she kept her clothing and had her head-quarters, at the old home with Uncle Dock and Aunt Wootie. Finally, however, a few years before her death she went to live with her youngest daughter, Frances, on the old Ed Moore place, where she lived until she died September 10th, 1887. She was buried beside her husband in the old Amis graveyard, and a tombstone marks her grave.

My recollection of her is very vivid, as is that of all who knew her; because she was a vigorous woman of strong personality and great courage. As an instance of her courage, it is related that shortly after her husband's death, one of her negro slaves, a man, rebelled against her authority and refused to obey her; but instead of being frightened or of calling in some neighbor man to chastise him, as was the custom of widows in such cases, she proceeded without assistance to administer the punishment suitable to his offense. After that she never had any more trouble with the negroes.

It is also related that Sherman's army marched right by her place at one time during the Civil War, and she knew that the soldiers would steal everything that they could lay their hands on. All her sons were gone to the war and there was no one at home except herself, her daughters and the negro slaves. So when she heard the army approaching, she had her few valuables, and all her bacon, lard

and other foodstuffs, brought in and piled in the middle of her room, which was the main living room of the family. She then got her daughters in and sat herself down in a chair in the open doorway and waited. Shortly the soldiers came and spread all over the place, into the smokehouse, the corn-crib, the dairy and everywhere else, and some even tried to go past her into her room; but she calmly sat there and kept them back. In a little while she saw an officer approaching, whereupon she called to him, identified herself as a master mason's widow, and asked for a detail of soldiers to guard her residence, which was immediately given her. Knowing her as I did, I can well understand why any skulking thief, soldier or not, would stop when he tried to pass her sitting in that open doorway.

And yet, everybody loved her, and all the children in the whole country side, and many of the grown folks, called her "Old Mother." And when she would pass a house going from one child's home to another, the children would come running to meet her and she would always stop and talk to them or to any one else she met, even a negro, and seemed to be greatly interested in their welfare.

An amusing story used to be told about Jeffie Wilson, daughter of Uncle Henry Wilson, who lived in the neighborhood. All the children except Jeffie, were accustomed to call her Old Mother. Jeffie, however, always called her Mrs. Amis. As Old Mother would pass along the road by Uncle Henry's place, the children would always run out to meet her shouting, "Howdy, Old Mother." One day when they saw her coming, Jeffie concluded that she would do like the rest and greet her as Old Mother. So when they ran out to meet her, Jeffie in the lead, she shouted, "Howdy, Old Mrs. Amis." The children teased her about it for years afterward.

In going from one child's home to another, she nearly always walked, and usually had one or two children along to carry her bundles. But very often she would go alone. When she got tired she would stop at the first house and rest awhile; and if it was near mealtime she would always stay and eat with the family. She was always welcome everywhere and the children were glad to see her. She always had an apple, a marble or some little thing for them, and what was better, a smile and a hug. She used to make trips that way for twenty miles or more. It would take her two or three days but she never got in a hurry and always arrived safely.

She would ride in an ox wagon or a mule wagon, if the mules were old and slow; but she did not like to ride in a buggy or hack with spirited horses. They went too fast for her. I remember once, my mother induced her to let me carry her from our home to Uncle Dock's, about five miles, in a buggy; but from the way she looked and held on, I am sure it was a journey in which she took no pleasure. She went to Texas once, about 1880, but when she got back, she said never again, it was all too fast for her. I wonder what she would have thought of the swift moving automobiles of these speed mad days, and whether she would have ridden in one of them.

She was a member of the Baptist Church and a devout believer in the ever ruling providences of God, yet she had a great fund of common sense and homely philosophy, and firmly believed that "God helps only those who help themselves." Once when my father was a candidate for office, she told him that if he set himself up as a target he might expect to be shot at; and the last time I ever saw her alive, she told me that if I ever got a handle to my name, folks would take hold of it and shake it. She had a little money which she kept loaned out, and

and was always very particular to collect her "intrust" as she called it. And I remember one day, when one of the borrowers paid her the "intrust", she said to him, with a chuckle, "That's what you pay me for trusting you with my money." And while that does not coincide with the definition given by the lexicographers or the law writers, yet every lender knows that she was right, because the custom is, that the greater the risk of losing the principal the higher is the rate of interest charged.

She had great faith in the virtues of castor oil, in generous doses, as a remedy for childish ailments, and seldom suggested anything else. She also believed that a jug of good whisky with some rock candy and various kinds of barks in it, was mighty good to cure a cold if you have one, and to keep it off if you didn't. And I think she was right. In fact, I wish I had a little of that same kind of medicine right now, (with the barks left out), because I am liable to catch a cold most any time.

Old Mother was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. When I can first remember her she was nearly seventy years old, but she was still vigorous. She was a little below medium height and was somewhat corpulent. Her complexion even at seventy years, was ruddy. After each meal she smoked a pipe of tobacco, but not often at other times. She had an old clay pipe and a cane stem that she carried around in her bag, - I think it was called a "reticule" in those days, - and she would get it out and fill it, and many a time I have dipped it in the hot ashes for her or handed her a live coal to light it. And then she would sit and puff, the perfect picture of peace and contentment. And yet they say, in these days of equal rights for women, that ladies should not smoke! O tempora! O Mores! Dear Old Mother, I loved her well, as did all who knew her. May she rest in peace.

VI

ASCENSION AMIS BLALOCK

Ascension L. Amis, oldest daughter of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born in Wilkinson County, December 28th, 1824 and grew to womanhood there. About 1838 or 1839 her father moved to Newton County and settled on a tract of land just north of the plantation of Millenton Blalock, now known as the Doolittle place. There she met Samuel Blalock, son of Millenton Blalock, and they were married March 12th, 1840. They lived together until his death, March 11th, 1852, and had three children, John M., Harriet P. and Louisa L. Blalock. She never remarried but remained a widow until her death, May 3rd, 1905.

From the time of her marriage until her death she lived at Newton, first with and among the family of her husband, and later with her children and grandchildren. I never knew her very intimately but would visit her occasionally after I reached manhood. She was a quiet, soft voiced, delicate old lady, with a slow, sweet smile, and features that showed she was quite a beauty in her younger days. Evidently she developed into womanhood early, because she married when she was but a few months above the age of fifteen years.

On the day of her funeral, in 1905, her son-in-law, Cal Doolittle, showed me some of her keepsakes, and among them was a formal, printed invitation to Miss Ascension Amis, to attend a grand ball in the town of Woodville, in

Wilkinson County, which, as I remember bore the date of 1836, but it may have been 1838. Well, well, folks, talk about how precocious the modern flapper is, and how they have "dates" when they ought to be playing dolls; but how about the old days when a twelve or fourteen year old Miss was formally invited to attend a grand ball, where the belles and beaux of the Southland danced away the fleeting hours, in the moonlight's mellow glow, in the old time town of Woodville, nearly a hundred years ago!

O time and change what has thou wrought,
Of all that scene of yester year!
The forms are faded that the moonbeams sought,
And the hearts are still that were then so dear;
But life ever laughs your havoc to naught,
And youth is the same from year to year.

And so it was that good old "Aunt Tent" sipped life's nectar in the early morning of youth, when her dresses were sweet; but when she met her mate her soul was satisfied. And though he was taken from her when she was only twenty-eight years old, she never sought another, but for more than half a century trod her lonely way, content with her memories, and the love and care of her children and grand-children, in the full faith that somewhere, sometime, all would be well. Such constancy! What was it that held her so true through all these years?

What was it? Alas, who knows!
What sage or seer hath ever told;
Or whence it comes, or whither goes,
Or how to win, or how to hold!

It blushes like a summer's dawn,
Then like the noon-tide sun it glows;
Or like a brook it babbles on,
Then like a mighty river flows.

It whispers low in soundless sigh
A story that no tongue can tell
That lifts us up above the sky
Or drags us downward into hell.

It makes or mars each human life,
Nor counts the cost in pain or tears;
But leads us on to joy or strife
In endless cycles through the years.

A passion born of nature's urge,
Repressed, refined through long control;
But when its tides begin to surge
'Tis master of the human soul.

And when its fires consume the dross
And fill our souls with perfect trust
Then each will bear the other's cross
Till dust returnest unto dust.

And though one fall beside the way
Their spirits nought will e'er dissever,
For the lonely one will wait the day
They meet to part no more forever.

11

VII

PARISADE AMIS DAY

Temperance Parisade Amis, (Aunt Pod), daughter of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born in Wilkinson County, September 18, 1826. On March 21st, 1844, she was married to B. O. Swinney. She lived with him only a short time, but just how long, I do not know. He was cruel to her and she left him and returned to her father's home. Swinney promised to reform and tried to get her to return to him, but she would not consent, and her father, on pain of death, forbade his coming to see her. My maternal grandfather, Albert G. Petty, was a friend to both of them and tried to effect a reconciliation but without success. I do not know whether Swinney died or whether they were divorced, but at any rate, on March 3rd, 1853, she was married to Charles W. Day, with whom she lived until she died May 10th, 1908. She never had any children by Swinney that I ever heard of. By her second husband, Uncle Charley Day, she had two children, Emma and Loula.

Uncle Charley and Aunt Pod, as they were familiarly and affectionately known, lived all their married lives, within five miles of the present village of Conenatta, in Newton County, and for a larger part of the time, in the village itself. And for me it is impossible to think of or write about them separately, for while they were unlike in appearance, yet they were truly one in spirit.

Aunt Pod was a great cook of the old time southern style, and Uncle Charley gloried in her excellence. The form of his blessing at mealtime was the shortest I ever heard. It was, "Lord, bless us and dinner"; or supper, or breakfast, as the case might be; and when Aunt Pod had prepared something which specially suited his taste, he would add, "and the old woman for cooking it." And that reminds me of the story about Uncle Charley and his false teeth. When he began to get along in years, he had all his teeth pulled, and a full set of artificial teeth, both upper and lower plates, made. In due time the dentist delivered and fitted them, and Uncle Charley was quite proud of them, though I knew he felt like he had a couple of wheelbarrows in his mouth. That day for dinner, Aunt Pod baked some sweet potatoes, of which he was specially fond. And so when dinner was ready, he sat down and said his usual grace, with a special blessing for the cook, and taking one of the potatoes he pulled off the skin and took a huge bite. Now that potato was soft, sticky and quite hot, as he discovered when he bit into it. And so he began to try to get rid of it, but it stuck to his teeth and he could neither swallow it nor spit it out; and the more he tried to swallow it the more it stuck, the more it got under his plates and the more it burned him. He struggles and sputtered for awhile, and finally took the whole mess out with his fingers, laid it on his plate and said, "Now, damn you, lie there and blaze." After that, those teeth were a matter of ornament, not of use; for he laid them up on the mantel, cussed 'em, and swore he would "gum it" for the balance of his days. And so he did.

Like many oldtimers, Uncle Charley had no liking for paper money, "Green-back", as it used to be called. In his opinion, gold was the only real safe money.. And so when he would hear of anyone having gold, he would go and trade

for it, even if he had to pay a premium, which he often did. He was a frugal man, and in this way he accumulated quite a sum in gold, for the proverbial "rainy day." How much he had or where he kept it, I never knew, but I know he had it, and it was a source of great comfort to them in their old age when the "rainy day" came.

Uncle Charley was a very large man, and as so often happens in matrimonial affairs, Aunt Pod was a small woman, though in her old age she became quite corpulent. They were quite peaceful old people and were liked by all who knew them. They seemed to be wholly satisfied with their surroundings and with each other; and I feel sure that for more than forty years before they died, neither of them ever went as much as ten miles from home. Nothing ever seemed to disturb the even tenor of their lives, but secure in the esteem and affection of their friends and kindred, they lived out their days in peace, if not in plenty. They were buried side by side in the old Amis graveyard, but no tomb marks their graves.

And there they sleep the years away
 Patiently awaiting the judgment day,
 For under the sod, as well as the stone,
 God will claim and keep his own.

VIII

WILLIAM ALEXANDER AMIS

William Alexander Amis, son of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born in Wilkinson County, Mississippi, July 24th, 1829. He was about eight or nine years old when his father moved to Newton County. He remained a bachelor until he was nearly thirty years old, but on February 3rd, 1858, he married Margaret Burleson. They had two children, George W. and Rankin H. Jr., otherwise known as Little Tank.

Uncle William, as I was taught to call him, was a very small man physically, and so were both his sons, neither of them being more than five feet four inches high. Before his marriage he was rather wild and was little or no help to his mother in rearing the younger members of the family. He kept the toll-gate on the turnpike across Tuscalameta Swamp and the grocery, as they then called it, connected therewith, for Col. Boyd, the owner; and like many other men of that day, drank more whisky than was good for him. When the war came on he enlisted as a private soldier in the Confederate Army and while he was in camp at Vicksburg, he contracted what was then known as camp fever, which subsequently came to be known as typhoid fever. His mother sent for him and brought him home where his wife tenderly nursed him until he died November 7th, 1862. While nursing him his wife contracted the disease and she too died, December 27th 1863.

His mother took his two sons, George and Tank, and kept them until she broke up house-keeping about 1873 or 1874, when George went to live with Uncle Charley and Aunt Pod, and Tank came to live with my father, Albert C. Amis, where they continued to live until they were grown.

In the year of 1879 Tank and Walter Willis, a young man about the same age, went to Texas. From there they both drifted up into Oklahoma, - then Indian Territory, - and married. I have not heard from Tank directly in more than forty years. About a year ago, Nettie Parks Harkey of San Saba, Texas, wrote me that Tank died in the summer of 1925 and that his family lived in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I wrote his widow a letter but never had any reply. About 1881 or 1882, George also went to Texas. For a time he lived at or near San Saba, with his Uncle James Parks, but later drifted northward and married. I have not heard from him directly for more than thirty years. About a year ago, Nettie Parks Harkey wrote me that he was living at Mangum, Oklahoma. I wrote him at once, but never had any reply.

Both William Amis and his wife are buried in the old Amis graveyard, but no one now living can locate their graves.

IX

RANKIN HAYWOOD AMIS

Rankin Haywood Amis, generally known as Tank Amis, was a son of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins. He was born May 25th, 1834 in Wilkinson County and died in Newton County, April 4th, 1910, and was buried in the old Amis graveyard.

He married Elizabeth Kinball, December 21st, 1854, who bore him one son and five daughters, namely, Frances, John, Mattie, Eliza, Mollie and Emma. Soon after their marriage they settled on a farm about half a mile from White Plains Church and resided there until sometime after the Civil War. They then moved to a farm they purchased from Uncle Charley Day, near the junction of the old Jackson road with the Lake and Carthage road, where they resided the balance of their lives. About 1896 his first wife died and on October 3rd, 1897 he married Elizabeth Windham, who survived him and is still living on the old homestead. He had no children by his last wife.

He enlisted as a private soldier in the Confederate Army and served throughout the war. He was a Master Mason, being a member of White Plains Lodge, at Sebastapol, at the time of his death. He was a consistent and devout Christian and was a member of Sulphur Springs Baptist Church; and yet he believed in enjoying all the good things of this life in a sane, sensible sort of way. To him, life was neither a joke nor a funeral; but like a summer day, was full of sunshine as well as shadows. Like other people, he devoutly believed in the future life, but he was sure of this one, and enjoyed it fully. When there was sorrow among his neighbors and friends, he was there to aid and comfort them, and when there was joy and gladness he was there to share it with them.

Uncle Tank was one of the finest and most lovable men I ever knew. He was jolly, even tempered and kind to everyone. He never borrowed trouble but said and believed that everything would always work out for the best in the end, if he would just do his part. He was frugal and industrious but believed fully in the proverb that haste makes waste; and so, no matter what the task was, he never got in a hurry but went at it steadily and deliberately until it was finished. His idea was, that if a man worked reasonably in the day-time, he was entitled to rest and sleep at night; and so he never tried to turn night into day to complete any task. No matter how pressing the farm work was, nor how fast the

grass was growing in his crop, he never went to work until after the sun was up, nor even then until after he had sat down after breakfast and smoked a pipe or two of tobacco.

He had an original idea about paying debts. No matter when a debt was due by its terms, he thought it was all right if he paid up before Christmas each year, so as to be able to start with a clean slate on the first of January. And with him the rule worked both ways. He was always perfectly satisfied if anyone owing him paid up by Christmas. And when one thinks of it, as customs were then, there was a good reason for his idea. At that time cotton was the sole money crop of the farmer; and it took him till the end of the year to cultivate, gather and market it, and he was fortunate if he could pay in full year by year. So why not everybody be satisfied if there was full payment by Christmas?

Another rather original notion of his was, that everyone was entitled to feel rich once a year; and so, when he went down to Newton and settled up his debts just before Christmas, he would get him a jug of whisky, and as long as it lasted, he kept pretty mellow and felt mighty rich, much to the scandal and disgust of Aunt Betty, his good old wife. But when it was gone, that was the end of his spree until about the same time next year.

He was of medium height, with a ruddy complexion and black hair and beard. He had a quick ready smile, a short chuckling laugh, and sly wit that was often very amusing. For example, while he believed in education he did not think it ought to make a fool of anybody; and so if any of the young folks got a little too precise in conversation, "too proper", as he called it, he would suddenly lapse into a regular negro dialect, which seldom failed to take the starch out in a very short time.

In his later years he became almost blind but that did not change his disposition or his outlook on life in the least. He still had the same cherry smile and mirth provoking chuckle, that made one know that he had a clean mind and a pure heart. And it seemed to be really true, as he told me on my last visit to him, that his last days were his best days. And God was good to him, because he passed on without pain. He just went to sleep and never waked up.

Uncle Tank and Aunt Betty, how everyone loved them and enjoyed visiting them; and how much at home they made everyone feel. And they loved to have their friends and neighbors with them, for as he often said, "When Betty has company, I get treated like company too." They are both gone the way of all flesh, and lie side by side in the old Amis graveyard. Their like we will not see again soon. May the sod lie lightly above them until the Master calls.

X

MARTHA AMIS PARKS

Martha Jane Amis, daughter of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born March 11th, 1838, as I believe, in Newton County, Mississippi, and died November 12th, 1909, in San Saba County, Texas. She married E. A. Graham, March 4th, 1858, but had no children by that marriage.

What became of E. A. Graham; whether he was killed during the war or died after the war, or whether they were divorced, I do not know; but the old family record shows this marriage. It also shows that she was married to James M. Parks, February 10th, 1867, who at that time was a widower with two daughters living. He built, and was the owner of the Wanita Wollen Mills, at Wanita in Clarke County, about eight miles from Enterprise. About the year 1875 he sold the Wollen mills and with his wife and three daughters, moved to San Saba County, Texas, where they lived the balance of their lives.

Aunt Martha never had but one child, Nettie, who was born a year or so after her second marriage. Sometime prior to 1889 Nettie married a Mr. Harkey and both of them live in San Saba, Texas.

I never knew very much of Aunt Martha and my recollection of her is not very vivid. She married Uncle Jim about the time I was born and went to live at Wanita, about thirty or forty miles away from where the balance of the kindred lived. In fact, I do not remember ever having seen her but once, when she came to visit us. As I remember her, she was a rather tall, handsome woman, and as I thought, very finely dressed. In fact, for some unknown reason, I was a bit afraid of her. But somehow, although Uncle Jim was a bluff, hearty, loud-voiced man, I was not afraid of him at all; but would sit and listen to him talk by the hour. I remember he was slightly deaf, and so was Old Mother, but neither of them appreciated just how deaf the other was. Somehow each one thought the other was very deaf, and when they got together and began to talk, they made the shingles rattle on the roof. It was a source of great amusement to my father, and I halfway suspect that he was the cause of the impression each one had of the other.

XI

ALBERT GALLATIN AMIS

Albert G. Amis, son of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was my father. He was born January 15th, 1841, and died July 31st, 1878. He served as a soldier in the Confederate Army, first as a private for fourteen months, in the Sixth Mississippi Regiment of Infantry and then for thirty-four months as Second Lieutenant of Company K, Thirty-fourth Mississippi Regiment of Cavalry. He was wounded at the battle of Shiloh, and subsequently took part in the Georgia Campaign, when General Johnson's Army retreated from Chattanooga across Georgia to the sea, and thence north into the Carolinas.

On the evacuation of Richmond in 1865, the specie (gold and silver) in the Richmond banks, was loaded into army wagons and started south under military escort. When this money train, as it was called, reached the Carolinas in the military area under command of General Johnson, a squadron of Cavalry, under command of Col. William Preston Johnson, was assigned to guard it in its movement to the southwest; and Company K, Thirty-fourth Mississippi Cavalry was one of the units assigned to that duty. When that command reached Forsyth, Georgia, they learned that General Johnson had surrendered his entire army and thereupon the officer in command distributed twenty dollars in silver to each soldier and placed the balance of the specie in a brick store-house, and waited for the Federal Troops. On their arrival, the Confederates surrendered. They were paroled, and permitted to keep their horses and the officers to retain their side-arms.

My father brought home his two "Navy six" cap and ball pistols and his sword. He gave the sword to China Grove Lodge of Masons at Conchatta, Mississippi, and it was used by them as the tyler's sword, the last I knew of it. He sold one of the pistols when I was a boy, but kept the other until his death, and he was an expert in the use of it. He said it saved his life once in the army and he would not part with it.

After having surrendered, he, in company with Lieut. Robt. Burton, of Lawrence, Steve Daniels of Union, and Clay McMullan, now living at Decatur, rode home across the country, where they arrived on the third Sunday in June 1865. On arriving home, he found that the family had gone to church, at old Sulphur Springs, a couple of miles away, and so he rode on over there. When he arrived the pastor was in the midst of his sermon; but some member of the congregation seeing him ride up on his old cavalry horse, clad in his worn and faded uniform, forgot the solemnities of the occasion and blurted out: "Yonder comes Ab Amis". With that, his mother and sisters, and the whole congregation, preacher and all, rushed out of the church to greet and welcome one whom they had already begun to mourn as dead. And they all say there was no more preaching that day.

On December 16th, 1865, he married Augusta Petty, daughter of Albert G. and Luvenia Brewer Petty, and soon thereafter, bought a settled a tract of land about a mile and a half northwest of Prospect Church, in Newton County, where he continued to reside until January 1878, when he moved to Conehatta, where he died in July following.

He was an excellent farmer and a good business man. He was a member of the Baptist Church, a Royal Arch Mason, an enthusiastic Granger, and was at various times, master of his Lodge and of his Grange. He was active in politics and was one of the political leaders of the county. In 1876 he was a candidate for representative from Newton County, in the State legislature, but was defeated by a margin of four votes in the single primary election of those days, in which there were five candidates.

He was a handsome man, about five feet eleven inches high, broad shoulders and erect. His complexion was ruddy, his eyes were gray, his beard was luxuriant and his black hair was worn rather long, in the style of the old south. At home he dressed as other farmers; but when he "went abroad", as the saying was, dressed in his broadcloth suit, polished, high-heeled calf-skin boots and broad brimmed black hat, he was a striking figure in any crowd. He was a great talker in private, but could never make a public speech. He was an inveterate tease, and kept his sisters and sisters-in-law in constant dread of him, and yet they all loved him.

As a business man, he was prompt in the performance of his obligations, and insisted that others do likewise. He bought his first tract of land on credit but he paid for it when it was due, and after that, he never bought anything on a credit of more than thirty days. He realized the power of cash in driving business deals and always took advantage of it. And as far back as I can remember he always kept a cash reserve of five hundred dollars, in gold, in an old leather-covered trunk in his bedroom. And it was there when he died.

Although he was just a farmer, he kept an old single entry ledger on the old high boy in the "big room", and every night he would enter in it a record of the day's transactions, whether with his tenants, wage-hands or others with whom

he had business. When his cotton was ready for market, he would always send the wagons on ahead and then he would bathe, shave and dress, mount his saddle-horse and get there before they did. He would then sell his cotton, purchase his supplies, load them on the wagons, and beat them back home. I think he had the idea, now very generally recognized, that a man's personal appearance counts in business of any sort.

Of course he was my ideal man. When I was a boy he would often take me with him when he went hunting, and I remember that I would try to tread in his tracks as I trudged along behind him. And though he has been dead more than fifty years, I have tried through the years, though often unsuccessfully, to tread in his tracks. And to me, though dead, he yet liveth.

He left surviving him, my mother and four children: myself, my two sisters, Elvy and Bertha, and my brother Alvin; all of whom, except my mother and my sister Elvy, are still living.

My mother, Augusta Pettey, was born April 8th, 1849, and was only twenty-nine years old when my father died. And in September 1879 she married William Buyck Thornton, of Conehatta, Mississippi, by whom she had one child, Ruby, born in 1881. After the marriage of my mother the family resided at the old home at Conehatta until 1896, when they moved to Gulfport, Mississippi, where my step-father died in February 1897. My mother continued to reside at Gulfport until 1905 when she moved to Meridian and lived in her own home, beside mine until she died July 9th, 1922, and was buried in Magnolia Cemetery, at Meridian.

No children ever had a more faithful, kind, tender and loving mother than was ours. Year in and year out, she loved us, toiled for us and cared for us. She often denied herself the comforts of life that we might have the best. True to our father's ambition as well as her own, she toiled and struggled to earn the money to send us all to college.

It would be ungrateful in me not to record here a tribute to our step-father, because he, too, helped to care for us and educate us; and without his help, I do not believe our mother would have succeeded half as well as she did. And the fact that he was a college man himself, contributed to give us a broader vision and encouraged us to take a collegiate education. His financial career was a varied and stormy one, for he was sometimes prosperous and sometimes poor.

But whatever he had, he shared with us, and when he lay dying, with full knowledge that the end was near, he prayed for "his children, all five of them", that God would keep and guard them. "After life's fitful fever he sleeps well", in the Methodist Church Yard at Conehatta. His only child, Ruby, now Mrs. J. H. Matthews, resides with her husband and three children at Gulfport, Mississippi.

XII

Mirnia Woodson Amis, (Aunt Wootie), daughter of John W. Amis, and Martha Wadkins, was born February 27th, 1844, in Newton County, Mississippi. She married J. D. Graham, (Uncle Dock) January 14th, 1864. He died June 21st, 1896, and soon thereafter, on December 29th, 1897, she followed him. They were both buried in the old Amis graveyard. They had nine children, Harvey, Ella, Walter, Ida, Mattie, Jimmie, William, John and Ruby, all of whom, except Mattie, lived to be grown and married.

Aunt Wootie was rather taller than any of her sisters, unless it was her sister Martha. She and Aunt Martha were never as stout as the others; and as I remember them their complexion was not so ruddy as was that of all the others. She was a very kind, motherly sort of a woman, but she never fussed or worried about the children. Her son Harvey was just a little older than I was, and I remember that I always enjoyed visiting him very much, because she would let us do almost anything we wanted to, except tear the house down or set something afire. We would go fishing, hunting, make blow-guns, play "Injun", or yoke up the yearlings and haul with the wood wheel wagon and never heard a word of protest from her. And Uncle Dock was the same way. They seemed to think that the Lord took care of boys, and there was no use to worry about us. And they were right about it, for I guess we would have done it anyway, even if we had to sneak off.

Uncle Dock was a happy-go-lucky sort of a man, full of fun and a great practical joker. He and his neighbors, Ford Petty, Pate Finlayson and Jim Wilson, were always playing pranks on each other, like grown up boys, much to their own amusement and that of everyone else in the neighborhood. Nor were Uncle Dock's pranks confined to them but often included others as well.

He knew that Uncle Charley Day liked his "dram" as well as anybody, if not a little better, especially in cold weather. In going to Newton to market, he had to pass through the village of Conchatta. On one occasion, along just before Christmas, he carried a load of cotton to Newton. While there he bought a jug of whisky and a jug of cotton-seed oil, and placed them both in the back end of his wagon among the various other articles he had purchased. Of course he took a few "nips" out of the whisky jug himself, on his way home, but just before he got to Conchatta he drove the stopper down tight in the whisky jug and left the one in the oil jug loose so it could be pulled out easily. When he reached the village he stopped his wagon right in front of Uncle Charley's house, and began to talk loud to a crowd on one of the store galleries. Pretty soon Uncle Charley came over and after he had got a whiff of Uncle Dock's breath, he asked him if he had any left. In a maudlin, half drunk manner, Uncle Dock said, "Yes, plenty of it in the back end of the wagon, help yourself." Without waiting for a second invitation, Uncle Charley went and pulled out the loose stopper, and there, before the whole crowd, proceeded to take a good long "swig" of cotton-seed oil, before he discovered his mistake. Although he got plenty of the contents of the other jug, to take the taste out, I do not think Uncle Charley ever fully forgave him.

And shortly before Dr. McIlhenny married Uncle Tank's daughter Mollie, Uncle Dock told him, in the greatest confidence, that there was a great secret about the Amis family that he ought to know but which he could not tell. Doctor was greatly worried, but of course could not ask Mollie to tell him. So he got very confidential with her and told her all manner of yarns about his folks, mostly of his own manufacture, in the hope that she would tell him the great family secret. But this availed him nothing and he was still mystified until the day of the wedding, when Uncle Dock, leading a mangy, bob-tailed cur, waylaid him on his way to the wedding, and after presenting him with the dog, told him that the secret was that every Amis son-in-law must own a bob-tailed dog.

It would take a volume to record all the pranks he played on his neighbors and kindred, and yet he was a good neighbor and friend. His pranks served to drive away the tedium of life, and the carking care that sits, too often, on the brow of those who dwell on the farm and toil with their hands, alone in the fields.

"The evil that men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones", wrote the great bard of Avon, but I prefer to remember the good rather than the evil; and to record that which makes life a little better and a little brighter. Like an old preacher friend of mine, now passed to his reward, I would rather make men laugh than to make them cry, and if I were permitted to amend the "Beatitudes", I would add, "Blessed are the mirth makers, for theirs is the kingdom of gladness."

"Laugh, and the world laughs with you,
Weep, and you weep alone,
For the sad old earth must borrow its mirth,
It has troubles enough of its own."

XIII

FRANCES AMIS MOORE

Frances Amis, daughter of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born January 28th, 1848, a little more than a year before her father died. She married William H. Moore February 18th, 1869. He died January 1st, 1908, but she is still living and like Old Mother, lives with and among her children, sometimes with her daughter, Nettie Moore Harper, at Wolfe City, Texas, and sometimes with her son, Almon Moore, at Navarro, Texas.

I remember her back as far as fifty years ago and I always thought she was more like her mother than any of her sisters. She always had the same little motions and mannerisms that distinguished Old Mother from all other people I ever knew. And while I have not seen her for many years I am told by those who have, that she grows more and more like her as she grows older. She was the baby child of the family, and as I always thought, my father's favorite sister.

When I can first remember, she and Uncle Bill lived within a mile or so of my father's home, and the families visited each other often. And one of the most vivid recollections I have, is how he used to tease her, or else her children until he got one or both of them crying. And when she began to scold him, he and Uncle Bill would pick up their hats and go off laughing, with me trudging along at their heels. She always called him Albert, but when she got angry and began to scold him, she said it so quick it sounded like "Abbott" instead of Albert. And yet, with all his teasing and her scolding, they were very fond of each other. And when Old Mother got too feeble to travel around among her children, she chose her baby as the one with whom she would spend her last days. And her trust was not misplaced, for she was lovingly and tenderly cared for until the end.

Aunt Frances' for nearly twenty years has been a widow, and yet she lives on. She has lived out her allotted span of three score years and ten, and by reason of strength, has almost reached four score. But the years come on apace, and the shadows are lengthening around her. The pathway is darkening and just over the hill lies the Valley of the Shadow. Conscious of a well spent life, she patiently awaits the Master's summons, in the blessed assurance that all will be well when her "ship puts out to sea". May her last days be glad days, and when the end comes, may she be,-

"Sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Uncle Bill was a bluff, hearty man, with a deep, bass voice and a slow, rumbling laughter that seemed to come from the depths of his being. He was fond of children, especially boys, and made companions of his sons. He was a man's man, and took great pleasure in their company and conversation. He seldom borrowed trouble or took things too seriously. He seemed to believe in the proverb, "Don't trouble trouble, till trouble troubles you", and as a result he escaped many of the needless worries and anxieties of life.

He liked to hunt and fish, and especially to trap partridges. He used to have a net, and a pony trained for the business; and when he went out on a damp, drizzly day along in the fall, he seldom failed to bag a covey. Some of the gun club members might say, that he was not sportsman like. But he wouldn't have cared if they had. He was out after the birds and he got them, just like the modern hunter, with three or four dogs and a pump gun does. What's the difference, the birds get killed either way. The only difference is that when Uncle Bill bagged more than he needed for his own table, he divided with his neighbors; while the latter day pump-gun hunter, puts all he kills in cold storage and keeps them for his own use. As between the two, I vote for Uncle Bill.

Uncle Bill is gone, and so are most of the birds and nearly all the fish and squirrels. Canals have been dug along the streams and the fishing is ruined. The forests have been cut down and destroyed and there is no place for the game to hide and nothing for it to feed on. The only hiding places left are the sedge fields and the briar patches, and about the only game that thrives there are the cotton tail rabbits, which the small boy and his hound pup still chase over hill and dale, to the great amusement of all concerned.

XIV

SUNDRY SKETCHES OF THOSE NOW DECEASED

HARRIET AND LOUISA BLALOCK
(Called Harriet and Lou)

These two were daughters of Samuel Blalock and Ascension Amis, and were born, reared and lived out their lives at or near Newton.

They were my cousins, but as they were both older than my mother, I was never familiar with either of them. In fact, because of the distance they lived from the rest of the kindred, I never knew either of them very well, and do not know but little of their lives or characteristics. My information is, that when Millenton Blalock, their grand-father, died, shortly prior to the Civil War, they inherited considerable property from his estate. But the administration dragged along in the Courts for many years, and then the War came on which freed the slaves and destroyed the value of the land. And the result of it all was that their inheritance was never of much benefit to them.

Lou married Wad Thompson, and while I used to hear my father speak of him, I never knew him. He died when I was about fifteen years old and up to that time I had scarcely ventured so far from home as Newton then was. It was a whole lot further then than it is now in these days of Ford cars and good roads.

Harriet married Cal Doolittle, whom I knew well, but not until after she was dead. Cal was the oldest son of Roger Doolittle one of the pioneer settlers of Newton County. He was a man of intelligence and judgment and was popular in his community. For a long time he was Justice of the Peace at Newton, and a good one too, as I can testify, having tried many cases in his Court. He had an accurate and retentive memory and a wealth of information about local people and conditions, extending back several years before the Civil War, and I always enjoyed hearing him tell of early times and conditions.

My information is that Harriet and Lou, as well as their husbands, are buried in the old Doolittle burial ground, just north of Newton.

MATTIE AMIS BRUNSON

Mattie was the daughter of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kimball and was born and reared in Newton County, Mississippi. In 1879 she married Alex T. Brunson, and continued to reside there until 1884 when the family moved to Texas. After moving to Texas, Alex was actively engaged in the ministry and in the pursuit of his calling, moved from place to place in the state until the family finally located at Farrar, Texas, where she died, March 22nd, 1922, and was buried there. Although they were a few years older than I, yet I remember them both as young people before as well as after their marriage.

As I remember Mattie, she was rather more of her mother's type than that of her father's people. She was a great singer, and had all the songs, words as well as notes, in the old Sacred Harp, "on the tip of her tongue". And so did Alex, her husband. And after they married and moved off to themselves, the neighbors used to say that the last thing they heard before they went to bed and the first thing they heard when they waked in the morning, was Alex and Mattie singing. But they were young and light hearted and didn't care what their neighbors said about it, but just kept on singing whenever they felt like it. A short time after their marriage, Alex felt he had a call to preach and begun preparing to enter the Ministry. And John, Mattie's brother, used to nearly tease the life out of her about how Alex would first try his sermons out on her, to see how they worked, before he tried them on the congregation. And with great glee used to tell many amusing stories about them. I never knew how much truth there was in them and always thought that they were mostly pure fabrication; but I also suspect that Alex, like most other husbands, appreciated his wife's kindly sympathy and criticism, especially in the earlier days of his Ministry. But, like her mother, Mattie was always a good sport, a happy go lucky sort of a woman, who took a joke well, and never suspected any one of intentionally mistreating her. And this, as well as her many other admirable traits, made her a great favorite with all who knew her.

She was a member of the Baptist Church and when I knew her was a zealous worker in the vineyard, and always took a keen interest in the Ministerial work of her husband. She lived to see all of her adult children married and settled

in homes of their own, and to live over again the days of her young motherhood, in the caresses and prattle of her grand-children; than which there is no greater comfort or joy to the aged.

HARVEY J. GRAHAM

Harvey J. Graham, son of J. D. Graham and Mirnia Woodson Amis, was born about 1866 in Scott County, Mississippi, and grew to manhood there. In his early boyhood, he, along with Jesse Willis, Thomas Wilson and myself, attended a school, at Old White Plains, in the winter of 1873 and 1874, taught by an old Yankee school teacher named Rhodes. All four of us were in the same class in spelling, which, by the way, was all we studied, or rather pretended to study. We "said three lessons" every day, or in modern phraseology, recited, three times every day. And that old scoundrel whipped each one of us nearly every time we "said a lesson", or rather tried to say it, for we were so scared of him we couldn't "say" what little we did know. And then to add insult to injury, he often kept us, six and seven year old boys, in after school until sundown, and we had to walk home, two or three miles, after dark. I believe he just hated every white skin in the south and tried to take it out on us children. And because of his cruelty the patrons finally ran him off.

Later Harvey attended the High School at Conchatta, where we both at last, began to learn a little. After he grew to manhood he went to Texas and for some years worked for his Uncle, James M. Parks at San Sabe, Texas. Later he married Elizabeth Harding, and as I understand, accumulated considerable property. At the time of his death in 1925, he lived at or near Lubbock, Texas, but I cannot get any information as to his family, though I have tried repeatedly. In our boyhood, Harvey and I were great friends and playmates, and we spent many happy hours together in boyish sports. And, by the way, even old Rhodes didn't get ahead of us much by keeping us in after school; because we took a lot of pine splinters and our dog along with us to school, and would sometimes catch possums on the way home at night. So then, as now, every bitter had its sweet.

JOHN M. WILLIS

John M. Willis (Reb) a son of James M. Willis of Newton County, was born March 18th, 1866, and was reared on a farm near Decatur. About 1894 he married Emma Amis a daughter of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kinball. After their marriage they resided on his father's old farm, which he purchased, until his death, about the year 1909. He was murdered by a negro, one of the tenants on his farm, who was afterward duly tried, convicted and executed for the crime. His widow never remarried, and continued to reside at the old homestead, and for a number of years was a teacher in the public schools of the county. She died in 1932 or 1933.

ROBERT W. THOMPSON

Robert W. Thompson, son of Wad Thompson and Louisa Blalock, familiarly known as Bob, was born October 7th, 1872. He was a locomotive engineer of the

Gulf and Ship Island Railroad, and was killed while in the performance of his duties on the 9th day of July 1916. He married Maud Doolittle, daughter of Thomas I. Doolittle, of Newton, Mississippi, about the year 1899. He left surviving him his widow, Maud Thompson, who is now matron of Gulfpark College at Gulfport, and two children, Robert and Loucidel. Bob was genial and accommodating and well liked by all who knew him. Children were especially fond of him, and that, in my opinion, is the supreme test of a man's goodness of heart. His death was accidental, caused by a washout on the main line of the railroad, his engine turning over and the steam scalding him. After his death, the officials of the railroad were very considerate of his widow and children and made a liberal settlement with them without any suit in the courts.

WILLIAM H. LACK

William H. Lack, familiarly known as Bill, was the son of Dr. Lack of Hillsboro, Mississippi, where Bill was born, January 12th 1858, and was reared there. On September 8th, 1886, he married Ella Graham, daughter of J. D. Graham and Mirnia Woodson Amis. After their marriage they lived for several years at Conchatta, Mississippi, where he engaged in farming and for several years was a Deputy Sheriff of the County. Subsequently the family moved to Bay Springs, Miss., where they resided for a number of years, and finally moved to Morton, where he died, July 25th, 1924. His widow still resides at Morton.

IDA N. GRAHAM

Ida Graham, daughter of J. D. Graham, and Mirna Woodson Amis was born in Scott County, Mississippi, May 10th, 1872. While she was a young girl, her father's family moved to Conchatta, where for a time she was a student in the High School there. On December 17th 1891 she married Ollie L. Lack, a son of Dr. Lack, of Hillsboro, Mississippi. After their marriage, they continued to reside for some time in and near Conchatta, but finally moved to Jackson, Miss., where she died June 14th, 1911.

EFFIE MOORE

Effie Moore, daughter of W. H. Moore and Frances Amis, was born January 2nd, 1876, in Newton County, and was reared there. When she was a young girl her parents moved to Conchatta and for a time she was a student in the High School there. Afterward her parents moved to Harperville, and she was a student in the High School there for a time. On December 28th, 1902, she married Claude G. McClanahan, of Hillsboro, where they resided for some years after the marriage. Later they moved to Lake where she died, March 22nd, 1909. She left three children, all boys, surviving her. She was a shy sweet girl, as modest and shrinking as a violet that blooms by the wayside, and gladdens the eye with its beauty and loveliness. In memory I can still see her sweet face and timid winsome smile, that won the hearts of all who knew her. The dread white plague, tuberculosis, laid its hand upon her, and at the touch of its blighting breath, she faded away.

ELVY ZERAH AMIS

Elvy Amis, daughter of Albert G. Amis and Augusta Pettey, was born December 13th, 1868, in Newton County and was reared there. In her girlhood, she attended, along with me, the old time Yankee teacher schools, and later the High School at Conchatta. When she was nearly grown she attended the East Mississippi Female College at Meridian, for two or three years. On February 12, 1895, she married Eugene Kelley, of Conchatta, and they continued to reside in our old home until her death June 26th, 1900. She was buried in the Methodist Churchyard at Conchatta. She was about five feet high and weighed about a hundred pounds. She had a ruddy complexion, black eyes, and hair that reached almost to her knees. She was always neat in appearance, sprightly in disposition and kind in word and deed. She died of an internal hemorage and was conscious until almost the end. When the eternal shadows began to fall about her she thought it was only the night coming on; and with a tired sigh, murmuring, "I'll be better in the morning", she fell asleep to wake no more.

"The moving finger writes and having writ,
 Moves on; nor all our piety nor wit
 Shall lure it back to cancel half a line
 Nor all our tears wash out a word of it."

And while we cannot understand the inscrutable decrees of Providence, nor plumb the depths of His wisdom, yet we are comforted by the reflection that somewhere "Behind the dim unknown, standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above His own." Like a flower in the springtime, she lived only to bloom and die, but,-

A lily of a day is fairest in May
 Although it fall and die that night,-
 It was a plant and flower of Light."

MOLLY AMIS MCILHENNY

Mollie Amis daughter of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kinball was born April 15th, 1869, in Newton County and was reared there. She attended the High School at Conchatta, but I do not think she graduated. During the Christmas holidays in December 1888 she married Dr. G. A. McIlhenny, a dentist, who then lived near Hillsboro in Scott County. He was well liked by everyone, and the only person to object to the marriage was old Steve Graham, a negro neighbor of Uncle Tank, who insisted that no man could make a living for a woman "jest pullin a toof here and a toof dar". After their marriage they lived for some years on a farm about two miles east of Hillsboro. Subsequently they moved to Forest where they continued to live until she died, and was buried there in 1930. They had three children, Oliver, Elizabeth and George, all of whom survived her and are now married and have families of their own. She was a fair slender girl, of her mother's type of face and figure. Her personality was winsome, and her manner charming to all who knew her. She was greatly attached to her husband and children, and they in turn almost worshipped her. When slightly teased her little giggling laugh was the most delightful I ever heard. As a consequence I used to tease her, just to hear that laugh. And I think Dock did too. She and her sister Emma, and Loula Day, were near my own age. Naturally they were my favorite

cousins and I loved them all very much. After Mollie and Dock moved to Forest I went to see her every time I was there and always enjoyed the visit. Her last illness was long and painful, and though she knew the disease was incurable, she bore the suffering with a patience and fortitude which none could excel. Dock spared neither pains nor expense to provide the best possible medical skill and care for her, but without avail. The grim reaper came and naught could stay his hand.

O spirit fair, where art thou now,
 In all the expanse of earth and sky?
 Dost linger here to soothe the brow
 Of loved ones, when pain and anguish are nigh?
 When the stars are shining throughout the night
 Dost flit above them as they sleep?
 Or mid heaven's bright celestial light
 Sittest thou thy watch and ward to keep?
 Dost pluck aside death's dismal veil
 To share their griefs and quell their fears -
 To give them strength lest courage fail?
 Or hast thou fled this vale of tears?
 In all the realm of boundless space
 Where art thou now, O spirit sweet?
 Dost gaze upon thy Maker's face,
 Or dost thou sit at Jesus' feet?
 Beyond the bounds of space and time
 And faintest gleam of sun or star
 Mid angel throngs and scenes sublime
 Dost hold the gates of heaven ajar?
 Who knows? We may not lift the veil
 That hides what lies beyond the grave -
 We can but hope, within life's pale,
 To live so that His grace will save.

LOULA DAY WILLIAMS

Loula Day, daughter of Charles W. Day and Parisade Amis, was born September 12, 1867, in Newton County and grew to womanhood there. During most of her life she resided in the village of Conchatta. She attended the high school there and as I remember graduated about 1889, and in the fall of that year was married to Thomas P. Williams. Her sister Emma had previously married Clarke Murrell and they had moved to Texas. So after her marriage Loula and her husband lived with her father and mother in the village until about 1901 or 1902 when they moved to the old Thornton homestead about half a mile north of the village where they lived for several years, after which they returned to the village and lived in the old Giles Brunson homestead. About 1927 or 1928 they moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee to live with their daughter, where she died about the year 1930.

As a girl she was tall and rather slender with black hair and eyes. Her complexion, while it had a tinge of red in the cheeks, was not so ruddy as was that of her mother and sister Emma. She did not have that quickness of motion

or speech characteristic of the Amis strain, but like her father was deliberate in all she said or did. She was a lovely winsome girl, and I thought very beautiful.

We were nearly the same age and took great delight in each other's society and companionship. When Emma, who was several years older than we were, had a beau to church, or an entertainment in the village, we played the part of chaperone and tagged along behind; and just for fun we often tried to hear the love making going on ahead of us. And one time we crept up rather close and heard John Bishop trying to tell her how pretty she was and how much he loved her. But he stammered so much and got so badly stalled in the effort, that we laughed out loud and put an end to the romantic scene. Another time we were tagging along, one beautiful moonlight night, behind our mutual cousin Ella Graham and her beau. Ella grew sentimental and looking up at the moon she said, "The moon, the moon, the pale yellow moon." Her beau did not know any poetry, but not to be outdone, he said, "The sun, the sun, the red hot sun." Again we laughed and ruined the love making.

She bore and reared ten children and gave her life, with patient cheerfulness to their service and that of her husband. Her father and mother lived in the same house with her all her life, and when they became old and decrepit she cared for them and nursed them in that sweet spirit of kindness and gentleness so characteristic of her. Like her mother she stayed at home and seldom went visiting or traveling. Until she and her husband went to Chattanooga to live with their daughter I do not believe she had been out of the county since her marriage.

Her life was one of service and self denial for those she loved. And the Master said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that he giveth his life for his friends." Measured by that standard she had no superior. Like deep waters, her life flowed on to the ocean of eternity without a ripple, without a murmur of complaint or note of discontent. To the great world of men she was unknown, unhonored and unsung. But in her own sweet gentle way her life was a benediction, a hymn of love and a prayer of service. Many a flower blooms by the wayside, and dies unseen by the hurrying throng. But its beauty and fragrance is just as great as if the multitude had stopped to enjoy it. And I am sure that as the sun of life was setting, she saw the stars shine through the gathering gloom, and heard a voice whisper to her fading consciousness, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." For again the Master said, "He that is greatest among you shall be your servant."

EMMA AMIS WILLIS

Emma Amis, daughter of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kimball, was born November 14, 1871, in Newton County and lived there all her life. In her young womanhood she attended the high school at Conchatta but I do not think she graduated. About the year 1894 she married John M. (Reb) Willis. For several years they lived just north of Cross Roads Church on the Newton and New Ireland road. When Reb's father, James M. Willis, died they purchased his place and moved on it. In 1909 her husband was murdered by one of his negro tenants and she was left with a family of five small children to rear and educate; and what was equally perplexing to her, a considerable sum in debts due by her deceased husband. But like her father, whom she resembled very much, she set herself to the task with grim determination, and slowly but surely paid the debts and reared her family to manhood and womanhood in a creditable manner.

To do this she managed the farm, kept the home and taught the neighborhood school for a number of years. In order to get a teachers license she had to review the text books, attend teachers institutes and summer normal schools. Like her father, the size of the task did not discourage her. She just kept at it until it was done. She never remarried but lived to see all her children grown and married. She died on Sunday with all her children about her. She had requested them to visit her on the previous day when she divided all her property among them. The next day she went to Church came back home and died that afternoon. I do not remember the date of her death but I think it was in the summer of 1932. She was buried beside her husband at New Hope Church near Stratton.

She was the youngest of six children and was as much like her father as was possible for a woman to be. She had the same ruddy complexion, the same quick step, the same chuckling laughter and ready wit, the same patience and perseverance under difficulties and the same genial disposition that made both of them well liked by all who knew them. When she was young she was more handsome than beautiful. There was something about her that was masculine. Her voice had none of the feminine treble in it but was somewhat husky, as though it was about the half way mark between the masculine and feminine.

While rearing her children she took part in their pleasures for she was a good sport and loved a joke or laugh as well as they did. Occasionally she visited me and I always stopped with her when I was in that part of the country. I well remember the last time I spent the night at her home. We laughed and talked about old times and the old timers until after midnight. And it rained that night and the car got stuck on the way back to Decatur next morning.

I knew Reb, her husband, quite well and liked him; but I have often wondered which was the better business man, he or his wife. He was inclined to be a plunger in financial matters, but his wife was more careful and frugal. She never made a debt until she knew how she could pay it, a trait he did not have. And I am not sure that she did not succeed, financially, as well or better than he would if he had lived. All which reminds me of Uncle Tank's maxim that everything works out for the best in the end if we only do our best. And the energetic courageous soul that she was did her best. No one could do more.

JOHN DAVIS AMIS

John Davis Amis, son of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kimball was born May 3, 1855, in Newton County and lived there all his life. By the time he was old enough to go to school the Civil War had been fought to a conclusion and the South was prostrate. The people were too poor to support private schools and the public schools were taught by ignorant yankee teachers only a few months in the year. The result was that he never had the opportunity to attend any other sort of school. And while he learned the three R's, readin', ritin', and 'rithmetic, he had no other "book learning". But like all the Amis's he was a good farmer. He knew good land when he saw it and how to make it produce good crops. So as soon as he reached his majority he bought a tract of valley land on Bougephalia Creek adjoining his father's farm and went to work. There he lived all his life and there he died in March 1934. On January 12, 1882, he married Susie Dowdle, daughter of that fine old Irishman, Uncle Jim Dowdle. She died in 1900, but she bore him seven children. Afterward on January 23, 1901, he married Eliza Andrews

who survived him and still resides on the old homestead. She bore him seven children, some of whom are now dead.

Though he was unlearned in books yet he was a man of quick perception and vigorous intelligence. His motions and speech were quick and decisive. And I used to wonder how he and his first wife, Susie, ever carried on a conversation; because she spoke so slowly and deliberately while his words came like the chatter of a machine gun. He was genial and jolly and always full of fun, playing pranks and telling amusing stories on his sisters and other kindred. When Will Horton, his oldest sister's first husband died, she married a man named Windom Bridges, and John in speaking of him, to her, always called him Windy Britches. He nearly worried the life out of his sister Mattie about having to prompt her husband, Alex, when he forgot a part of his sermon. I have heard him tell, with great glee, about how when Alex got "in a weaving way" in one of his sermons and the congregation was enthralled, with his eloquence, Mattie blurted out "You've skipped a page, Alex."

He was an inveterate talker and he laughed almost as much as he talked. Like his father he enjoyed life in his own way among his neighbors and friends. And they were all his friends. While he lived the frugal life of a well to do farmer he never accumulated or hoarded money. I do not think he cared for it further than to pay his just debts and provide for the comfort of himself and family. His sense of right and wrong was as keen and clear as that of any man I ever knew. And for that reason his judgment was respected by all who knew him. When his older children grew up and married some of them went to Texas, some to New Mexico and one to California. He visited them one or more times and they tried to induce him to "go West and grow up with the country", as they had. But he said no, he had grown up already. To him the scenes and friends of his youth and earlier manhood were too sacred for him to abandon. And so he lived his life out within a mile of the place where he was born, and now lies buried in the churchyard at Sulphur Springs, scarcely two miles away.

DR. JACOB NATHANIEL RAPE

Jacob Nathaniel Rape was born about 1858 in Scott County, Mississippi, and was reared on a farm a few miles north of Lake near Old Salem Church. I never knew his father but I think his name was Cyrus Rape. My information is that he died in early manhood leaving his widow and two children both boys, Jacob and John. All the property they inherited from their father was a small farm and the necessary plow animals and farming implements. And so from the time of his death the boys had to work the farm in order that they and their mother might have a living. The result was they had very little schooling and when Jacob reached his majority he was scarcely able to read and write. Realizing the advantages of an education he went to work to acquire it. He first attended the common schools of the neighborhood and then the High School at Conchatta where I first knew him. At that time he was a grown man with a heavy moustache, the envy of the rest of us, who could only sport a few hairs on the upper lip, about eight on one side of the nose and nine on the other.

He was a hard working, industrious student and his progress was steady, though not rapid. After graduating at the Conchatta High School he studied medicine but I have forgotten what college he attended. I think it was Tulane University in New Orleans, but it may have been Mobile Medical College. After

graduating in Medicine he located near Chula in Holmes County, where he stayed some years on a large plantation as plantation physician. On November 11, 1897 he married Bertha Amis, daughter of Albert G. Amis and Augusta Pettey. On their wedding trip they spent a month or six weeks in New York City where he took a special course at Bellevue Hospital. On their return they located in the town of Chula until about the fall of 1900 when they moved to Moss point, Miss., where they resided as long as he lived. He died in February 1935 and was buried at Moss Point.

In appearance he was rather tall and slender and always wore a moustache, though in later years he kept it cut short. He was one of the neatest men I ever knew; and while he never wore fine clothes yet they always fit him well and it seemed that he never got them soiled. Some men are that way and he was one of them. I never could understand how they do it. His manners were polite, kind and courteous; and that was true at home as well as abroad. He was patient and even tempered. In fact I do not think I ever saw him angry or out of humor in my life, though I knew him for nearly fifty years. He was a devout Christian and was sober and temperate in all things. He was an excellent physician and enjoyed a good practice from which he accumulated considerable money. But unfortunate investments and bank failures caused him to lose rather heavily. However, at his death he left his widow sufficient for her comfortable maintenance. His widow and four sons survived him. She is now and has been for several years a teacher in the Moss Point public schools. Two of the sons reside with her in the old family homestead and two of them live in Gulfport.

XV

CHILDREN OF JOHN WOODSON AMIS AND MARTHA WADKINS

The old family Bible, now in the possession of Mrs. Frances Amis Moore, of Navarre, Texas, shows the following record of the births, deaths and marriages of the family of John Woodson Amis and his wife, Martha Wadkins.

JOHN W. AMIS, born September 22, 1795, married Martha Wadkins, February 10, 1824, and died February 4, 1849.

MARTHA WADKINS, born June 28, 1805, married John W. Amis February 10, 1824, and died September 10, 1887.

ASCENSTON LUCRECY AMIS, born December 28, 1834, married Samuel Blalock March 12, 1840, and died May 2, 1905.

TEMPERANCE PARISADE AMIS, born September 18, 1826, married B. O. Swinney March 21, 1844; married C. W. Day March 3, 1853, and died May 10, 1908

WILLIAM ALEXANDER AMIS, born July 24, 1829, married Margaret Burleson February 3, 1858, and died November 7, 1862.

JAMES C. AMIS, born January 20, 1832, and died January 26, 1832.

RANKIN HAYWOOD AMIS, born May 25, 1834, married Elizabeth Kimball December 21, 1854; married Elizabeth J. Windham October 3, 1897, and died April 14, 1910.

MARTHA JANE AMIS, born March 11, 1838, married E. A. Graham March 4, 1858; married James M. Parks, February 10, 1867 and died November 12, 1909.

ALBERT GALLATIN AMIS, born January 15, 1841, married Augusta Pettey December 16, 1865, and died July 31, 1878.

MIRNIA WOODSON AMIS, born February 27, 1844, married J. D. Graham January 14, 1864, and died December 29, 1897.

FRANCES M. AMIS, born January 28, 1848, married W. H. Moore February 18, 1869; still living, address Navarro, Texas.

XVI

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL BLALOCK AND ASCENSION AMIS

JOHN MILLENTON BLALOCK, born July 6th, 1842, died July 24th, 1856.

HARRIET PARISADE BLALOCK, born June 18th, 1844, married Calvin H. Doolittle June 18th, 1863, died January 16th, 1890. Her husband died March 13th, 1906. They were both buried at Newton, Mississippi

LOUISA LAVINA BLALOCK, born February 25th, 1847, married Wad H. Thompson about 1866, died November 4th, 1892. Her husband died September 12th 1882. They were both buried at Newton, Mississippi.

XVIII

DESCENDANTS OF CAL H. DOOLITTLE AND HARRIET BLALOCK

A - AMELIA A. DOOLITTLE, born May 3rd, 1868; died October 28th, 1888. She was never married.

B - JOHN W. DOOLITTLE, born August 22nd, 1870; married Wilina Simmons February 4th, 1893; died April 7th, 1905. He had five children.

C - SAMUEL R. DOOLITTLE, born June 3rd, 1874; married Ella Magee, of Magee, Mississippi, June 11th, 1896. They have five children. Address, Newton, Mississippi.

D - LOULA C. DOOLITTLE, born December 18th, 1874; unmarried. Address, Mississippi.

E - JULIA A DOOLITTLE, born November 15th, 1876; married John Thomas July 22nd, 1896. They have eleven children. Address, Union, Mississippi.

F - MOLLIE O. DOOLITTLE, born December 31st, 1878; married W. B. Smylie October 28th, 1896; he died April 30th, 1926. They had seven children. Her address is Copperaslove, Texas.

G - WADDIE W. DOOLITTLE, born November 7th, 1882; married Lessie Read January 20th, 1917. They have two children, W. W. Jr., and Harvey. Address, Newton, Mississippi.

H - NEWT S. DOOLITTLE, born August 4th, 1887; married Lizzie McLaurin, September 16th, 1911; died January 27th, 1918. They had one child, Albina, born June 28th, 1912. Widow's address, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

- B -

CHILDREN OF JOHN W. DOOLITTLE AND WILINA SIMMONS

WELDON H. DOOLITTLE, born April 27th, 1894; married Maud Nix February 4, 1923. Address, Bessemer, Ala.

LOTTIE DOOLITTLE, born April 7th, 1897; married Richard Davidson, August 17, 1915. Address, Houston, Texas.

MINNIE LEE DOOLITTLE, born September 1st, 1899; married Mr. Grosheau. Address, Nashville, Tenn.

J. C. DOOLITTLE, born August 31st, 1903. Address, Miami, Fla.

LOFTON DOOLITTLE, born February 1st, 1904. Address, Miami, Fla.

- C -

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL R. DOOLITTLE AND ELLA MAGEE

SADIE E. DOOLITTLE, born April 2nd, 1897; unmarried. Address, Newton, Miss.

PURVIS B. DOOLITTLE, born December 24th 1898; unmarried. Address, Newton, Miss.

FRANCES M. DOOLITTLE, born August 13th, 1900; married J. D. Norman, October 3rd, 1918; they have two children, James L., born August 6th, 1919, and William G., born August 15th, 1921. Address Newton, Miss.

ROBERT S. DOOLITTLE, born August 5th, 1904; unmarried. Address, Newton, Mississippi.

MARY K. DOOLITTLE, born May 12th, 1910; unmarried. Address, Newton, Miss.

- E -

CHILDREN OF JOHN THOMAS AND JULIA A. DOOLITTLE

HATTIE J. THOMAS, born June 14th, 1897, married J. A. Dunnagin August 19th, 1920. They have four children, James, Julia F., William J. and Allen. Address, Union, Miss.

D. W. THOMAS, born June 23, 1899; married Lois Powell September 23rd, 1919. They have three children, Emma, D. W. Jr., and Barbara. Address, Hazelhurst, Miss.

WILFRED D. THOMAS, born February 28th, 1901; married Julia Mae Aycock, December 28th, 1925. They have one child, Ouida. Address, Hazelhurst, Miss.

CALVIN AND CATHERINE THOMAS, twins, born June 16th, 1903. Calvin married Grace Robinson May 10th, 1927. Address, Hazelhurst, Mississippi. Catherine married Tolman Harbour May 9th, 1925. They have two children, Esther and Willie.

FANNIE RUTH THOMAS, born March 31st, 1910. Address, Union, Miss.

CHESTER THOMAS, born January 6th, 1913. Address, Union, Miss.

EDITH L. THOMAS, born October 18th, 1915. Address, Union, Miss.

JENNIE THOMAS, born November 23rd, 1916. Address, Union, Miss.

JOHN THOMAS, JR., born January 31st, 1918. Address, Union, Miss.

GEORGE THOMAS, born April 25th, 1920. Address, Union, Miss.

- F -

CHILDREN OF W. B. SMYLIE AND MOLLIE O. DOOLITTLE

LOUISE SMYLIE, born November 4th, 1900, married Chas Kidd, March 18th, 1922. Address, San Antonio, Texas.

BESSIE SMYLIE, born September 29th, 1905. Address, Copperslove, Texas.

BERTHA SMYLIE, born October 18th, 1908. Address, Copperslove, Texas.

ETHEL SMYLIE, born January 18th, 1911. Address, Copperslove, Texas.

JAMES SMYLIE, born October 22nd, 1913. Address, Copperslove, Texas.

ROBERT SMYLIE, born December 20th, 1918. Address, Copperaslove, Texas.

WALLACE SMYLIE, born July 29th, 1919. Address, Copperaslove, Texas.

XVIII

DESCENDANTS OF WAD H. THOMPSON AND LOUISA BLALOCK

A - MARY A. THOMPSON, (Mollie) born December 2nd, 1867; married William L. Weems, February 4, 1888. He was twice a member of the Legislature from Scott County. They have eight children. Address, Sun, Mississippi.

B - MARTHA H. THOMPSON, (Hun) born July 28th, 1870. She married Sam E. Doolittle about 1890. He is dead and she resides at Jackson, Mississippi. They have three children.

C - ROBERT WITHERS THOMPSON, born October 7th, 1872, and died July 7th, 1916. He married Maude Doolittle who now resides at Gulfport, Miss. They have two children.

D - CANNIE MCILROY THOMPSON, born November 12th, 1876. Now dead.

E - John Thompson, born August 25th, 1879, and died December 20th, 1893.

- A -

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM L. WEEMS AND MARY A. THOMPSON

J. T. WEEMS, born November 25th, 1888; graduated Millsaps College 1913; married Lilla Idom 1909, who died in 1911 and who bore him one child, Lilla Idom. He married Allie Mangum, 1915; they have one child, Mary Elizabeth. Minister of M. E. Church South, now stationed at Anguilla, Mississippi. Address, Anguilla, Miss.

ROBERT WEEMS, born August 17, 1890; educated at State Normal College and Millsaps College; married Opal McDonald 1919, who died in 1922; married Esther Lewis 1924. They have one child, Bettie Opal. Superintendent of Education Scott County, Miss. Address, Sun, Miss.

WILLIAM WADDIE WEEMS, born January 29th 1893; graduate of Harpersville College; married Mary High. They have two children, Mary Ruth and Waddie Peyton; teacher. Address, Sun, Miss.

MARY LOU WEEMS, born February 11, 1895; educated Lake and Montrose High Schools; teacher twelve years; married E. G. Wilkerson, 1921. They have one child, William Edward. Address, Sun Miss.

ALVIN LAMAR WEEMS, born September 24, 1897; graduated Harpersville and Montrose High Schools and Millsaps College; married Ruby Powell 1924; teacher at Burns, Miss. Address, Burns, Miss.

RUTH WEEMS, born October 27, 1901, and died December 25th, 1906.

MACK DAWSON WEEMS, born December 21st, 1903; educated State Normal College, unmarried; teacher Chifton High School, Scott County. Address, Sun, Miss.

BESSIE LOIS WEEMS, born January 29, 1906; educated Hinds County Junior College; unmarried, Address, Sun Miss.

LAURA ZELLIE WEEMS, born March 19, 1909; educated Lake High School. Address, Sun, Miss.

- B -

CHILDREN OF S. B. DOOLITTLE AND MARTHA THOMPSON

MYRTLE L. DOOLITTLE, born October 22, 1891; married A. G. Hitchins, October 16, 1913, and have two children living, Victor born October 10, 1914, and Edgar Robert, born February 13, 1920. They reside at Jackson, Mississippi

SAMUEL E. DOOLITTLE, JR., born February 12, 1893. Resides at Jackson, Miss.

MATTIE LOU DOOLITTLE, born December 4, 1894; married Teat Burge and has one child, Evelyn Lois, born August 2, 1917. Address, not known.

- C -

CHILDREN OF ROBERT W. THOMPSON AND MAUD DOOLITTLE

ROBERT T. THOMPSON was born October 16, 1901. He married and resided at Baton Rouge, La. He was a fireman on the Y. & M. V. R. R. and was accidentally killed in 1930. His widow resides at Gulfport, Miss.

LOUCIDEL THOMPSON, was born November 22, 1903. She graduated at Gulfpark College at Gulfport, Mississippi and married Claude Woodson Wall December 2, 1923. They have one child, Claude Woodson Wall, Jr., born November 7, 1924. Address, Jackson, Miss.

XIX

DESCENDANTS OF CHARLES W. DAY AND PARISADE AMIS

A - EMMA DAY, born June 8, 1863; educated at Conchatta High School; married Nathan Clarke Murrell, son of Rev. L. P. Murrell, October 6, 1887; they have six children living and one dead. Address Athens, Texas.

B - LOULA DAY, born September 12, 1867; educated at Conchatta High School; married Thomas P. Williams, about 1889; they have ten living children. She is now dead and her husband resides with one of his daughters at Conchatta, Miss.

- A -

CHILDREN OF N. C. MURRELL AND EMMA DAY

EDGAR L. MURRELL, born at Brownsboro, Texas, August 24, 1888, and died November 16, 1888.

NANNIE EUGENIA MURRELL, born at Brownsboro, Texas, January 29, 1890, married J. W. Wvriette March 1, 1911. Address, Lamesa, Texas.

LULA LEE MURRELL, born at Brownsboro, Texas, February 12, 1893; married Arthur J. Kelleher, April 11, 1918. Address, Austin, Texas.

CLARKE MURRELL, Jr., born September 20, 1896; married Julia Lochridge, September 29, 1921; address, Athens, Texas.

RUTH MURRELL, born at Athens, Texas, April 6, 1899; married Smith A. Gamett, December 25, 1917; resides at Dallas, Texas.

VEDA CAROLYN MURRELL, born at Athens, Texas, May 8, 1902; married A. C. England, December 29, 1905. Address Athens, Texas.

DANIEL WOOD MURRELL, born at Athens, Texas, July 17, 1906; address, Athens, Texas.

- B -

1938946

CHILDREN OF THOMAS P. WILLIAMS AND LOULA DAY

THOMAS ALVA WILLIAMS, born February 9, 1891; student Public School, Conchatta, Miss.; student School of Telegraphy Newman, Ga., occupation, telegraph operator, Mo. Pacific R. R., Lake Village, Ark.; died November 21, 1925; married Mrs. Allen Dundy January 9, 1922. They had one child, Mary Lou. Widow's address, Lake Village, Ark.

MARY LOUISE WILLIAMS, born March 2, 1893; student at Mississippi State Woman's College; married Imman White Ramsey April 22, 1917. They have two children, Thomas Wesley and Florence Inez. Address, Perkinston, Miss.

EMMA JOE WILLIAMS, born November 1, 1894; student of Knoxville Business College of Law, Knoxville, Tenn.; employed by Title Guaranty & Trust Company, Chattanooga, Tenn.; married John Robert Davis, traveling salesman, July 31, 1923; they have one child, John Robert Jr. but are now divorced. Address, 814 Crozier Street North, Chattanooga, Tenn.

MINNIE WILLIAMS, born May 5, 1896; educated public school, Conchatta, Miss; married Clarence C. Carson August 7, 1917. They have four children, Charles Clifton, Joe P., Earl Roger and Bennie Lamar. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

JOHN D. WILLIAMS, born March 25, 1898; student Telegraph School, Topeka, Kansas. Operator Santa Fe Railroad, Scholle, N. M.

LESLIE LAMAR WILLIAMS, born May 9, 1900, whereabouts unknown since 1923.

CHARLES BUYCK WILLIAMS, born August 26, 1902; auto mechanic employed by Capital State Tire & Vulcanizing Company, Jackson, Miss.

ZADIE ELIZABETH WILLIAMS, born May 10, 1905; student nurse North Louisiana Sanitorium, Shreveport, La.

ROBERT LANDON WILLIAMS, born July 26, 1908; educated public schools; employed by Lovemans Department Store, Chattanooga, Tenn.

MAXINE ELLIOTT WILLIAMS, born August 30, 1910; student Chattanooga High School, Chattanooga, Tenn.

XX

DESCENDANTS OF RANKIN H. AMIS AND ELIZABETH KIMBALL

A - FRANCES VIRGINIA AMIS (Pancy) born October 5, 1855; married to E. W. T. Horton (Will) December 16, 1875; he died July 15, 1900, married M. W. Bridges November 24, 1904. She had seven children by her first marriage but none by her last one. Address, Stamps, Ark.

B - JOHN D. AMIS, born May 4, 1858; married Susie Dowdle, January 12, 1883; she died in 1900 and he married Eliza Andrews, January 23, 1901. He has twelve living children and four dead. He died in 1935.

C - MARTHA SUSAN AMIS (Mattie) born September 24, 1863; married Alex T. Brunson February 27, 1879; moved to Texas, December 1884; died at Farrar, Texas, March 22, 1922; her husband who survives her resides at Malone, Texas.

D - ELIZA AMIS was born about 1866; married J. T. Westerfield about 1888 and died about 1892. She had two children, Eliza and Emma both of whom lived to be grown but are now dead. J. T. Westerfield is also dead and I have no definite information about the family.

E - MOLLIE AMIS was born April 15, 1869; married Dr. G. A. McIlhenny, dentist, in December 1888; they had three children. She died in 1930 and was buried at Forest, Miss. Her husband still lives there.

F - EMMA AMIS, born November 15, 1871; married J. W. Willis, (Reb), about 1894; he died about 1899; they had five children. She never re-married. She died in 1932. Both are buried at New Hope Church near Stratton, Miss.

- A -

CHILDREN OF E. W. T. HORTON AND FRANCES V. AMIS

CLARA HORTON, born October 24, 1876; married John W. Pace, February 16, 1898; they have seven children. Address, Lake, Miss.

CORA HORTON, born December 28, 1878; married W. W. Dowdle February 24, 1902; they have five children. Address, Union, Miss.

AMIS HORTON, born September 7, 1882; he lived to be about grown but never married. He is now dead.

ALVIN HORTON, born December 6, 1866; but I have no further information about him.

WILLIE HORTON, born October 20, 1888; married William J. Ward January 29, 1911. They have four living children: Emma Frances, Virginia Ailene, Ruby Mae and Robert Horton. Address, Lewisville, Ark.

EULA MAE HORTON, born May 20, 1891; married Albert L. Petty, September 25, 1910; they have two living children, Blanche Marie and Albert, Jr. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

JEWELL ELVY HORTON, born April 1, 1893; married Thomas W. Grimmett November 24, 1910. They have five children. Address, Stamps, Ark.

- A 1 -

CHILDREN OF JOHN W. PACE AND CLARA HORTON

LESSIE PACE, born September 11, 1899; unmarried; trained nurse. Address, Jackson, Mississippi.

WILLIE B. PACE, born January 14, 1902; married Ellen Thomas November 26, 1925; they have one child, Willie Eugene. Address, Lake, Miss.

GLADYS D. PACE, born August 23, 1904; married Elvy N. Warren, July 22, 1926; they have one child, Mary Frances. Address, Lake, Miss.

LOTTIE PACE, born October 11, 1906; unmarried. Address, Lake, Miss.

ALTA LAVERNE PACE, born May 31, 1909; unmarried. Address, Lake, Miss.

LUCILLE PACE, born June 1, 1912; address, Lake, Miss.

THOMAS J. PACE, born January 8, 1918; address, Lake, Miss.

- A 2 -

CHILDREN OF W. W. DOWDLE AND CORA HORTON

JANIE DOWDLE, born June 17, 1903; married Floyd Adkins December 24, 1922; they have two children, May Louise and Floyd Jr. Address, Union, Miss.

COYT DOWDLE, born September 21, 1905. Address, Union, Miss.

ALTON DOWDLE, born January 17, 1908. Address, Union, Miss.

FRANCES DOWDLE, born August 5, 1910. Address, Union, Miss.

HARLAN DOWDLE, born January 13, 1914. Address, Union, Miss.

- A 3 -

CHILDREN OF THOMAS W. GRIMMETT AND JEWELL ELVY HORTON

DORATHEA, born June 24, 1911.

COY GLYNN, born June 23, 1914.

DAVID HURSELL, born August 3, 1916.

MARY FRANCES, born June 6, 1921.

THOMAS HAROLD, born November 6, 1924

Address, Stamps, Ark.

- B -

CHILDREN OF JOHN D. AMIS AND SUSIE DOWDLE

JAMES RANKIN AMIS, born December 3, 1882; no information as to his Family. Address, Las Cruces, N. M.

ALMA AMIS, born January 8, 1884; married J. B. Vance November 23, 1902; now dead, three children. Husband's address, Conchatta, Miss.

WILLIAM ANDREW AMIS, born July 18, 1886. No further information as to his family.

GEORGE GROVER AMIS, born March 24, 1889; married Mittie E. Lois Russell September 23, 1915; four children, Susie Fern, Husta, Merle and George Jr. Address, Borino, N. M.

NETTIE MOORE AMIS, born September 19, 1891; married Claude Barber, September 1, 1911; five children, James, Hazel, Claudine, Irene and Harlan. Address, Levelland, Texas.

JOHN LEON AMIS, born August 9, 1894; married Julia Stanley, June 6, 1925; one child, Bobby. Address, Lancaster, Cal.

MORRIS PARKER AMIS, born October 17, 1897; married April 20, 1919; four children, Frances Louise, James Hayward, Winifred and John Carl. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

CHILDREN OF JOHN D. AMIS AND ELIZA ANDREWS

LENA RIVERS AMIS, born October 17, 1901, now dead.

WILLIAM RANKIN AMIS, born October 1, 1903. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

CHARLIE AMIS, born October 23, 1905; married Lolian Gyles, December 11, 1926. Address, Berino, N. M.

EDGAR AMIS, born December 23, 1907. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

MURRY AMIS, born March 30, 1911; unmarried. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

JOHN D. AMIS, jr., born February 15, 1913; now dead.

HERBERT BAILEY AMIS, born December 21, 1916. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

- B 1 -

CHILDREN OF J. B. VANCE AND ALMA AMIS

SUSIE MAE VANCE, born October 11, 1903; married John Wilson Leach, December 18, 1919; two children, Fannie Orlene, and Alva Dee. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

LORENA OZELL VANCE, born September 28, 1908; married Robert Howard Leach, October 3, 1925; one child Howard Jr., Address, Conchatta, Miss.

JOHN SHARPE VANCE, born February, 1912; Address, Conchatta, Miss.

- C -

CHILDREN OF ALEX T. BRUNSON AND MATTIE AMIS

TOMMIE LEE BRUNSON, born about 1880 or 1881; she first married Henry Frazier, who died a few months after the marriage. She then married Rev. D. W. Reed. They have three children, Ethel, Roy Witt, and David Travis; Ethel married Loyd Edwards and they have one son, Edward Jr.; address, Post, Texas.

ORLANDO RANKIN BRUNSON, was born about 1882 or '83; married Myrtle Manning, March 21, 1903; they had only one child living, Letha May, who married John Massie; they have one child, a daughter. Address, Winkler, Texas. Myrtle Manning died in May 1900, and on December 23, 1912, Orlando married Eunice Russell, by whom he has nine children, - Opal Marie, Juneta, Loretta, Bertha, Fannie Sue, Emmie Monea, daughters, and Orville Rankin, Orlin Orlando and Orlie Russell, sons. Address, Post, Texas.

WILLIAM ISAAC BRUNSON, was born November 1889; married Annie Perkins October 18, 1908. Their children are Essie Lee, Hazel, Alma Pauline, Mildred and William Isaac Jr. Address, Odoneal, Texas.

ALPHIA DEE BRUNSON, born July 5, 1893; died August 13, 1908, and Amis Moseley Brunson, born July 29, 1897, died July 13, 1912.

MARTHA JANE BRUNSON, born November 24, 1899, and married Joseph T. Cochran, October 16, 1915. They have three children, Ludell, Lauralene and William Travis. Address, Coolidge, Texas.

ALEX HOLMES BRUNSON, born April 26, 1906, lives with his father at Malone, Texas.

- E -

CHILDREN OF DR. G. A. MCILHENNY AND MOLLIE AMIS

OLIVER RANKIN McILHENNY, born September 21, 1889; student School of Engineering, University, Mississippi; married Carlotta Searls, of Vicksburg; date unknown; no children. Civil Engineer, employed by Y. & M. V. R. R. for a number of years. Now Supervisor of Railways, Tennessee Coal and Iron Company. Address, 1620 Jefferson Avenue, Ensley, Ala.

ELIZABETH SMITH McILHENNY, born May 6, 1892; graduate Miss. State College for Women; married Rev. Alvin Stokes of Winfield, La. Three children, the first, Mary Beth, died when 2½ years old. George Alvin the second and Ruth Ray are now living. Address, Ferriday, La., where Rev. Stokes has a pastorate.

GEORGE NEAL McILHENNY, born February 8, 1895; graduated Miss. A. & M., College; married Viva Brooks, of Lake, Miss. Employed by Newport News, Ship Building Corp. with headquarters in Newport News, Va. Now resides at Lake, Miss.

- F -

CHILDREN OF J. W. WILLIS AND EMMA AMIS

IRVIN WILLIS, born January 18, 1896; he is married and has three children, Audrie, Margie and Delores. No information as to who he married or when. Address, Stratton, Miss.

MYRTLE WILLIS, born March 12, 1899; no information as to husband's first name or business; she married a Mr. Cobbin in 1928, and he was killed in a mill accident in 1929. Address, Stratton, Miss.

OVANDA WILLIS, born May 30, 1902; married a man named Red. They have one child, John Charles. Address, Lucedale, Miss.

ELVY WILLIS, born September 4, 1905. Address, Stratton, Miss.

JAMES RANKIN WILLIS, born June 17, 1908; unmarried. Address, Stratton, Mississippi.

XXI

DECENDANTS OF JAMES M. PARKS AND MARTHA AMISCHILDREN OF NETTIE PARKS HARKEY

OTTO A. HARKEY, born December 29, 1889; married Naomi Small January 3, 1918. They have one child, a girl, now about eight years old. Address, San Baba, Texas.

OTIS M. HARKEY, born February 9, 1892; married Mable Kirkpatrick, October 7, 1915. They have two children, boys, aged nine and six years. Address, San Saba, Texas.

OLGA B. HARKEY, born April 14, 1898; married Bernice Baxter September 16, 1919. They have one child, a boy about two years old. Address, San Saba, Texas.

ABEL B. HARKEY, born March 24, 1906; married Virginia Tilley, June 8, 1926. Address, San Saba, Texas.

XXII

DESCENDANTS OF ALBERT G. AMIS AND AUGUSTA PETTEY

A - ALFONSO BOTBET AMIS, born February 7, 1867; student Chamberlain Hunt Academy 1881-2; student Tulane University 1885; student University Mississippi 1886 to 1892; fellow and instructor Mediaeval and Modern History, University of Mississippi, 1890 to 1892; graduated University of Mississippi 1892; located at Meridian, Mississippi and began practice of law January 1893; City Attorney, City of Meridian from 1912 to 1931; Chancellor Second District of Mississippi since 1930. Married Mary S. Langford, June 11, 1893. They have six children. Address, 1203-38th Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi.

B - ELVY ZERAH AMIS, born December 13, 1868; student High School Conchatta, Mississippi; student East Mississippi Female College, Meridian, 1888 to 1892; married Eugene E. Kelley February 12, 1895, died June 26, 1900. She had two children, Frank and Amis.

C - BERTHA AMIS, born February 1, 1873; student Industrial Institute & College, at Columbus, 1892 to 1896; married Dr. Jacob N. Rape, November 11, 1897; teach Moss Point Public Schools; member Moss Point Baptist Church. Address, Moss point, Miss.

D - ALVIN WOODSON AMIS, born January 6, 1875; student University Mississippi, at various times from 1891 to 1898; graduated from the University of Mississippi 1898; employee of G. & S. I. R. R. from 1900 to 1925; auditor G. & S. I. R. R. from 1916 to 1925; real estate and Insurance business since 1925; secretary and Treasurer of Gulfport Baptist Church; Secretary Building & Loan Assn., Gulfport; Superintendent of Baptist Sunday School. Married Patty Brooks, October 2, 1904. Address, Gulfport, Miss.

- A -

CHILDREN OF ALFONSO BOBBET AMIS AND MARY S. LANGFORD

MARSHALL WILSON AMIS, born September 13, 1894; graduated University of Mississippi, Literature and Law 1917; captain Battery A. 334 Field Artillery, U. S. Army, A. E. F., 1918 and 1919; discharged at Camp Shelby March 1919; member of law firm of Amis & Dunn, Meridian, Mississippi, from 1919 to 1931. Married Alice Mary Smith July 21, 1917. They have three children, Alice Mary, Margaret and Marshall, Jr. Address, Jackson, Mississippi.

MAURICE BREWER AMIS, born March 11, 1896; student University of Mississippi, 1912-13; graduated University Alabama 1918; sergeant in 605th Engineers U. S. Army A. E. F. 1918 and 1919; discharged at Camp Shelby June 1919; Chief Chemist, Standard Oil Refinery, Baton Rouge, La. Married Violet Bolton, May 3, 1920. They have one child, Violet. Address, 1056 Park Boulevard, Baton Rouge, La.

A. B. AMIS, Jr., born August 30, 1899; student Miss. A. & M. College, and graduated University of Mississippi, Law, 1922; entered practice of law at Meridian, Mississippi, 1922; member of Miss. State Legislature as representative from Lauderdale County from 1924 to 1928. Married Pauline Hardin April 25, 1923. They have one child, A. B. Amis, III, and one adopted child, Paul Hardin Amis. Address, Newton, Mississippi.

AUGUSTA AMIS, born July 22, 1902; graduated Meridian High School 1921; student Mississippi State College for Women 1921 and 1922; married George A. Whitener, July 18, 1924; they have two children, Mary Mina and George Amis. Address, 1213 Thirty-eighth Avenue, Meridian, Miss.

FRANCES AMIS, born May 30, 1904; graduated Meridian High School 1921; student Mississippi State College for Women 1921 to 1923; married James C. Floyd, September 26, 1927. Address, 1219 Thirty-eighth Avenue, Meridian, Miss.

MARY AMIS, born October 16, 1908; graduated Meridian High School 1925; student University of Alabama 1926 and 1927. Married John Donovan Ready, January 4, 1929. They have three children, John Donovan, Jr., William Emmet, and Mary Frances.

- B -

CHILDREN OF EUGENE E. KELLEY AND ELVY AMIS

FRANK EDWARD KELLEY, born January 28, 1896; student Montrose High School 1915 to 1917; married Bernice Russ, of Lyman, Mississippi, July 26, 1918; divorced and married Ruth Wooster, June 4, 1926; Frank is an Insulating and Refrigerating Engineer and is employed by an Oil Refinery at Baytown, Texas. Address, Baytown, Texas.

AMIS WILLIAM KELLEY, born October 28, 1898; educated at Ellisville Agricultural High School; married Jennie Mayer of Ellisville. October 18, 1918; they have three children, Elvy Maud, Dorothy Ann and Amis W., Jr. Amis is employed by the Western Electric Co. at Gulfport, Miss. Address, Gulfport, Mississippi.

- C -

CHILDREN OF DR. JACOB N. RAPE AND BERTHA AMIS

CYRUS AMIS RAPE, born January 14, 1900; graduate Moss Point High School 1918; graduated School of Pharmacy, University of Mississippi 1922; pharmacist, Day Bros. Drug Co., Gulfport, Miss. Married Adele Yelverton September 20, 1928; they have one son, born October 14, 1929, Raymond Edward Rape. Address, Gulfport, Miss.

JOHN WOODSON RAPE, born August 28, 1902; graduate Moss Point High School; graduate school of Pharmacy, University of Mississippi; address, Moss Point, Miss.

JACOB NATHANIEL RAPE, Jr., born August 12, 1904; graduate Moss Point High School; student University of Mississippi and A. & M. College; employed by Southern Paper Company, Moss Point, Miss. Address, Moss Point, Miss.

ALFONSO GALLATIN RAPE, born June 12, 1906; died June 13, 1907.

KATHERINE RAPE, born March 21, 1908, died July 4, 1909.

WILLIAM PETTEY RAPE, born January 1, 1910; died July 31, 1911.

GRAHAM PETTEY RAPE, born September 1, 1911; student Moss point High School. Address, Moss Point, Miss.

- D -

CHILDREN OF ALVIN WOODSON AMIS AND PATTIE BROOKS

ALVIN WOODSON AMIS, Jr., born October 14, 1905; graduate Gulfport High School; student Commercial Art School, Chicago 1925 to 1926; now employed by Fairbanks Morse Company. Married Mildred Amy Keller, September 10, 1927. Address, 6123 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

WAYNE BROOKS AMIS, born August 28, 1910; married Louise
. Address, Gulfport, Mississippi.

XXIII

DESCENDANTS OF J. D. GRAHAM AND MIRNIA WOODSON AMIS

A - HARVEY JORDAN GRAHAM, born 1866; married Elizabeth Harding in 1892; died at Lubbock, Texas in 1925. No information as to family.

B - ELLA GRAHAM, born April 15, 1868; married William H. Lack, September 6, 1886. W. H. Lack was born January 12, 1858, and died July 25, 1924. Address, Morton, Miss.

C - WALTER W. GRAHAM, born June 11, 1870; married Mattie Pettey, October 15 1897. Address, Conchatta, Miss., R. F. D.

D - IDA V. GRAHAM, born May 10, 1872; married Ollie L. Lack, December 17, 1891; died June 14, 1911. They had four children.

E - MATTIE GRAHAM, born in 1875 and died in 1888. Exact dates not known.

F - JIMMIE GRAHAM, born July 12, 1876.; married J. O. Coley, December 6, 1900. Address, Estes Mill, Miss.

G - WILLIAM A. GRAHAM, born about 1879; married Lois Leach, date unknown. No information as to family. Address, Conchatta, Miss. R. F. D.

H - JOHN D. GRAHAM, born March 12, 1881; married Carrie Hollingsworth, December 12, 1913. They have three children. Address, Hillsboro, Miss.

I - RUBY GRAHAM, born September 8, 1885; married R. F. Underwood, November 12, 1905. Address Conchatta, Miss., R. F. D.

- B -

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM H. LACK AND ELLA GRAHAM

OWEN R. LACK, born May 21, 1887; married Alice Agnew August 19, 1917; they have two children, Beth and Marjorie: Station Agent Assistant. Address, Morton, Miss.

CHLOE LACK, born October 4, 1890; married John T. Ogletree, March 7, 1919. They have one child, Ruby Joe. Husband is an expressman from Birmingham to Chicago. Address, Sylacauga, Ala.

BELLIE AMIS LACK, born November 5, 1894; married Philip H. McRee, barber, July 27, 1913; they have six children: Ross, Freddie, Belle, Doris, Mary Frances, Graham and Kenneth. Address, Morton, Miss.

MARY EVELYN LACK, born August 19, 1896; married B. F. Brown, salesman, December 28, 1919. No children. Address, Morton, Miss.

NELLIE ALBERTA LACK, born September 29, 1901; married R. L. Schroeder, electrician, January 21, 1922. No children. Address, Box A. West End, Birmingham, Ala.

LOTTIE LOUISE LACK, born May 29, 1903; married James F. Woodward, Civil Engineer, March 25, 1922. They have one child, Mary Jean. Address, Morton, Miss.

- C -

CHILDREN OF WALTER GRAHAM AND MATTIE PETTEY

THOMAS WOODSON GRAHAM, born September 30, 1898; married Elizabeth McDill in 1924. Address, Conchatta, Miss., R. F. D.

LOUIS LAWSON GRAHAM, born October 22, 1900. Unmarried. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

EDWIN DENSON GRAHAM, born June 29, 1903. Unmarried. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

ALBERT CECIL GRAHAM, born October 12, 1905. Unmarried. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

HERSCHEL COLLIER GRAHAM, born May 12, 1908. Unmarried. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

PETTEY GRAHAM, born September 3, 1910. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

MATTIE LOU GRAHAM, born September 25, 1918; Address, Conchatta, Miss.

- D -

CHILDREN OF OLLIE L. LACK AND IDA V. GRAHAM

MATTIE H. LACK, born December 1, 1892; married Roy L. Gordy, November 4, 1917; two children, Marshall L. and Fredford. Address, Forest, Miss.

GEORGE G. LACK, born November 17, 1894; married Annie Hodge, August 19, 1920; three children, George, Jr., Billie Frances and Annie Jean. Salesman. Address, Jackson, Miss.

RUTH W. LACK, born February 5, 1898; married Marion C. Townsend, January 17, 1926. No children. Address, Morton, Miss.

JAMES M. LACK, born September 3, 1901. Unmarried. Salesman. Address, Jackson, Mississippi.

- F -

CHILDREN OF J. O. COLEY AND JIMMIE GRAHAM

CLARENCE GRAHAM COLEY, born November 25, 1901; married Catherine Baker, July 21, 1924. One child, Gwendolyn. Address, Estes, Mississippi.

WOOTIE LOUISE COLEY, born March 21, 1905; married Dewy H. Avery, August 31, 1923. Address, Estes, Miss.

D. C. COLEY, born July 30, 1907. Address, Estes, Miss.

BLANCHE MAY COLEY, born March 25, 1911. Address, Estes, Miss.

- G -

- H -

CHILDREN OF JOHN D. GRAHAM AND CARRIE HOLLINGSWORTH

HOWARD GRAHAM, born September 22, 1914.

AUDREY HORTENSE GRAHAM, born January 14, 1924.

WAYNE G. GRAHAM, born April 25, 1927.

- I -

CHILDREN OF R. F. UNDERWOOD AND RUBY GRAHAM

MABEN GRAHAM UNDERWOOD, born October 8, 1906.

JAMES MURRAY UNDERWOOD, born December 10, 1911.

MARY WOOTIE UNDERWOOD, born October 31, 1914.

WILDON MAXWELL UNDERWOOD, born January 12, 1919.

XXIV

CHILDREN OF W. H. MOORE AND FRANCES AMIS

A - WILLIS WADKINS MOORE, born August 15, 1870; married Annie M. Estes of Hattiesburg, Miss. February 1, 1906; she died, August 1922. Married Mrs. Claribel Freeket, December, 1924; no children. Address, 1032 N. Maple Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

B - CLARENCE ALMON MOORE, born April 12, 1872; married Katie Thomas of Corsicana, Texas, August 18, 1901. Address, Navarro, Texas.

C - NETTIE B. MOORE, born April 19, 1874; married T. B. Harper of Harpersville, Miss., November 14, 1899. Address, Wolfe City, Texas.

D - EFFIE D. MOORE, born January 2, 1876; married C. G. McClannahan of Hillsboro, Miss., December 28, 1902; died March 22, 1909. They had three children, William, Claude and George.

- B -

CHILDREN OF C. A. MOORE AND KATIE THOMAS

ANNIE THOMAS MOORE, born August 31, 1902; married Thomas D. Smylie, July 23, 1922. They have one child, Thomas D. Jr.; address, Wortham, Texas.

LIELA MERLE MOORE, born October 28, 1904; married Warren B. Terry, July 16, 1924. Address, Corsicana, Texas.

MABEL CATHERINE MOORE, born March 23, 1907. Address, Navarro, Texas.

WILLIAM WELDON MOORE, born January 10, 1910; died January 7, 1913.

CLARENCE ALMAN MOORE, Jr., born December 31, 1911. Address, Navarro, Texas.

EDMUND REX MOORE, born September 26, 1913. Address, Navarro, Texas.

MARJORIE MOORE, born March 9, 1918. Address, Navarro, Texas.

- C -

CHILDREN OF T. B. HARPER AND NETTIE B. MOORE

EDITH D. HARPER, born April 15, 1901; married Charles F. Stone of Wolfe City, Texas, March 17, 1920. They have one child, Frances Laverne, born December 28, 1920. Address, Wolfe City, Texas.

- D -

CHILDREN OF C. G. McCLANNAHAN AND EFFIE D. MOORE

WILLIAM MOORE McCLANNAHAN, born October 2, 1903. Address, Lake, Miss.

CLAUD CLEON McCLANNAHAN, born June 11, 1905. Address, Lake, Miss.

GEORGE TAYLOR McCLANNAHAN, born March 7, 1907. Address, Lake, Miss.

XXV

THE BREWER FAMILY

Wytche Brewer was the father of Luvenie Brewer Pettey. He was a Tennessee Mountaineer, but I do not know when or where he was born. About 1822 he married Flora McPherson, and for a time lived in Sumter County, Alabama, near Livingston. About 1835 he moved to Scott County, Mississippi, and settled on a farm about a mile northwest of where Sulphur Springs Church is now located, where he died in March 1877 at the age of eighty-five years. He was buried in the old Amis graveyard. He had ten children, all of whom are long since dead as follows:

MARTHA BREWER, who was born in 1823, never married and has been dead many years.

LUVENIA BREWER, who was born in 1825, married Albert G. Pettey. Their descendants are shown in the sketch of the Pettey Family.

CHRISTIAN BREWER, who was born in 1827, married John W. Pettey, Jr., who died during the Civil War; they had four children, as follows:

VIRGINIA PETTEY, who married Dick Cloud. They had seven children; MAY CLOUD, who is unmarried; DELL CLOUD, who married Robert McDill; FATE CLOUD, who married Emma Anderson; LEONA CLOUD, who is unmarried; JOHANNA CLOUD, who married Singleton Hunt and WILLIAM CLOUD, who is unmarried.

WRIGHT PETTEY, who married Mary Millsaps. They never had any children. She is dead, and he has re-married and lives at Harperville, Miss.

WILLIAMS PETTEY, who married Emma Wall, and has three children: Nina, Lilla and Fannie. Address, Conchatta, Mississippi.

ANN PETTEY, who is unmarried and lives with her brother, Williams Pettey.

LEONORABREWER, (nora), who was born about 1829, married William Thomas. They moved to Texas about 1870 and I have no information as to the family.

MARY BREWER, who was born about 1831, married Romulus Day, (Run) and had four children as follows:

MALVINA DAY (Mallie) who married Finus Bailey and had six children: Charley, Minnie, Effie, Edith, Betty and Finus, Jr.

FLETA DAY, who married James Smith and had seven children: Irvin, Romulus, Monroe, Eugene, Jewell, Flora and Amos.

HELENA DAY (Hely) who married George Underwood. I have no information as to their family.

MARY DAY who married Absalom Loper (Aps). They had no children.

ELIZA BREWER who was born about 1833, married Lunsford Jones; they had five children, as follows:

MILDRED JONES (Milly) who married Worth Bailey and had three children, Laura, Jones and Fletcher.

LAFAYETTE JONES who married and went to Texas about forty years ago. No information as to the family.

JAMES JONES who married and went to Texas about forty years ago. No information as to the family.

TENNESSEE JONES (Tennie) who married Albert Finley and went to Texas many years ago. No information as to the family.

NANCY BREWER, who was born about 1835, married John Arnold. They had two children, as follows:

COLUMBUS ARNOLD who married a Miss Risher. They lived in Leake County, Mississippi, and reared a family but I do not anything of them.

JOHN ARNOLD, Jr., who married Mary Jackson. After her death he married Amanda Cleveland. He had three children; Georgia who married Joe Collins, Pearl who married a Mr. Russell, and Jenner of whom I have no information.

HENRIETTA BREWER (Retta) who was born about 1837, married Bennett Bishop by whom she had one child, Lita, who married William Cox. After the death of Bennett Bishop she married William Owens, by whom she had three children, Irvin, Oscar and Wytche.

MELISSA BREWER (Lissie) who was born about 1839, married Irvin Miller, a Methodist preacher, who was once Grand Master of Masons. They had several children, among whom was John, Addie, Jennie, Gussie, Irvin and Edith; but I have no information as to their families.

WILLIAM BREWER who was born about 1841, married Melissa Gunn by whom he had two daughters. He died during the Civil War and his widow re-married and went to Texas, about 1870. I have no information as to their families.

XXVI

THE PETTEY FAMILY

DR. JOHN WRIGHT PETTEY, born about 1792, was a country physician, who lived in Madison County, Alabama, about twenty miles northeast of Huntsville, where he died, in September 1876. He had thirteen children, as follows:

CLINTON PETTEY who married and lived at White Plains, Tenn.
He had several children.

WILLIAMS PETTEY who married and lived at Fayetteville, Tenn.
Had two sons, Matthew and William.

ALBERT G. PETTEY who married Luvenia Brewer. They had eight children.

SARAH PETTEY who married Mitchell and had one daughter, Anna,
who married Love.

JOHN W. PETTEY, Jr., who married Christian Brewer, and had four children. His descendants are shown in sketch of the Brewer family.

WILLIAM A. PETTEY who married and moved West before the Civil War. No information as to the family.

ELIZA PETTEY who married William Howard. Large family;
lived at Fayetteville, Tenn.

LUCY PETTEY who married Thomas Love and had several children.
Lived near Fayetteville, Tenn.

RICHARD PETTEY who married Margaret Norris. Had two children.
Lived near Fayetteville, Tenn.

DANIEL PETTEY, CORNELIA PETTEY, NANCY PETTEY, AND NEWTON PETTEY, none of whom ever married.

All of this family are long since dead, and I have no information as to who their descendants are, or where they now reside, except as to the families of Albert and John, whose descendants are shown in these sketches. Dr. T. M. Pettey, the father of Ferd Pettey and Andrew Pettey, was a nephew of Dr. John Wright Pettey; and Uncle Alfred Eastland, the father of Col. Hiram Eastland (Hi) married one of his sisters. So Col. Hi Eastland, Dr. T. M. Pettey and Albert G. Pettey were first cousins.

DESCENDANTS OF ALBERT C. PETTEY

ALBERT G. PETTEY, a son of Dr. John Wright Pettey, was born May 20, 1820, in Madison County, Alabama, and was reared there. About 1843 he came to Scott County, Miss., and for a time taught various schools in the neighborhood. About the year 1845 he married Luvenia Brewer, daughter of Wytche Brewer and Flora McPherson, and settled on a farm about a mile northeast of Sulphur Springs Church, where he died June 2, 1879. They had eight children, three sons and five daughters whose names and descendants are shown later in these sketches. He was a man of medium height, and weighed about one hundred and forty pounds, and when I knew Him, his hair and beard were white. He was intelligent and well educated for those times and was a man of influence in the community. He was a Master Mason, a Granger, a member of Sulphur Springs Baptist Church, and for many years before his death, was the church clerk. He was buried in the old Amis graveyard.

LUVENIA BREWER, wife of Albert G. Pettey, was born February 11, 1825, in Sumter County, Alabama. She was the daughter of Wytche Brewer and Flora McPherson, who moved to Scott County about 1836. In 1845 she married Albert G. Pettey. In 1881, after the death of her husband, she moved to Union in Newton County, where she lived until her death, February 18, 1897. They had eight children, whose descendants are as follows:

A - ANNA MISSOURI PETTEY (Pink) daughter of Albert G. Pettey and Luvenia Brewer, was born March 12, 1847. About the year 1864 she married Warner Bledsoe. After their marriage they resided for several years near Sulphur Springs Church, but about 1881 they moved to Union in Newton County where they resided for some years. About the year 1889 they moved to Texas and later to Macallister, Oklahoma, where they lived the balance of their lives. They have both been dead several years. They had three children, as follows:

CELESTIA BLEDSOE, who was born in 1866, and married a man named Ross. They have no children and reside in Whitesight, Texas.

FLOYD BLEDSOE who was born in 1870 and married Sallie Payne. They have one child, Elizabeth. Address, Denison, Texas.

DELIA BLEDSOE who was born in 1873 and married Fort D. Pittman. They have no children. Address, McAllister, Oklahoma.

B - MARY AUGUSTA PETTEY, daughter of Albert G. Pettey and Luvena Brewer, was born April 8, 1849. She married Albert G. Amis, December 16, 1865. After their marriage they lived on a farm in the northwestern part of Newton County until January 1878 when they moved to Conchatta, where her husband died July 31, 1878. They had four children, Bobbet, Elvy, Bertha and Alvin. In September 1879 she married William Buyck Thornton by who she had one child, Ruby. After their marriage they lived at Conchatta until 1896 when they moved to Gulfport where her second husband died in February 1897. She continued to reside in Gulfport until 1905 when she moved to Meridian and lived there until she died July 9, 1922. She was buried in Magnolia Cemetery, at Meridian. The record of all her Amis children is shown in the sketch of that family. She had one child by her second husband, Ruby, who was born July 21, 1881, was educated at E. M. F. College at Meridian, and married John H. Matthews, November 21, 1906. They reside at Gulfport, Mississippi, and their children are as follows:

RUBY ABANATHA MATTHEWS, born September 23, 1907; graduated from Gulfport High School; now student in Greenville Woman's College, Greenville, S. C. Address, Gulfport, Mississippi.

SARAH HARRIS MATTHEWS, born July 25, 1915. Address, Gulfport, Mississippi.

JOHN WILLIAM MATTHEWS, born March 4, 1917. Address, Gulfport, Mississippi.

C - FRANCES MADORA PETTY (Fannie) daughter of Albert G. Pettey and Luvena Brewer, was born September 15, 1851, and married Dr. J. M. Cleveland of Union, Miss., June 2, 1882. After their marriage they lived at Union, where he died in 1895. In December 1903 she and her family moved to Meridian, where she still resides at 3818 Twelfth Street. They had three children, as follows:

JUNIE CLEVELAND, who was born June 24, 1883. She has never married and resides with her mother at Meridian, Miss.

THOMAS GROVER CLEVELAND, who was born October 9, 1885. He married Lillian Yarbrough. They have two children, Lillian Winifred and Martha Frances. He is a practicing physician and resided at 915 Thirty-sixth Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi.

MIMMS I. CLEVELAND, who was born September 6, 1829. He married Emily Malone in 1922. They have one child, Mimms, Jr. He is Secretary-Treasurer of the Dixie Construction Company, a subsidiary of the Alabama Power Company of Birmingham, Ala. He resides at 1117 Graymont Avenue West, Birmingham, Ala.

D - CORINE FLORENCE PETTEY, daughter of Albert G. Pettey and Luvena Brewer, was born October 16, 1853. She married Frank Bledsoe about the year 1872. After their marriage they resided in the northwestern part of Newton County until 1889, when they moved to Texas and settled in Mills County, about eight miles from Goldthwaite. Her husband died in 1925 and she still resides in the old home. They had twelve children as follows:

MARY BLEDSOE, who married John Oglesby, and lives at Westbrook Texas. They have six children, several of whom are married.

ARTHUR BLEDSOE, who married and lives at Westbrook, Texas. He has five children, several married.

PERCY BLEDSOE, who married and lives at Bangs, Texas. He has several children.

ALONZO BLEDSOE who is unmarried. Address, Goldthwaite, Texas.

PEARL BLEDSOE, who married a man named Baker. Address not known. They have several children.

GUSSIE BLEDSOE who is unmarried. Lives in New Mexico.

FANNIE BLEDSOE, who married Mark Dawson, and lives at Roscoe, Texas. They have four children.

CARL BLEDSOE, who married Fannie Forehand and lives at Goldthwaite, Texas. They have five children. He is Sheriff of Mills County.

CLARENCE BLEDSOE, who married and lives at El Paso, Texas. He has one child.

DAISY BLEDSOE, who married Lem Sellers and has two children. Address, Goldthwaite, Texas.

JEWELL BLEDSOE, who married August King. They have no children. Address, Westbrook Texas.

RUBY BLEDSOE, who married George Mauldon; they have two children. Address, Breckenridge, Texas.

E - THOMAS WRIGHT PETTEY, son of Albert G. Pettey and Luvenia Brewer, was born August 12, 1855. He married Sallie Majure in 1878. After their marriage he bought the old Wytche Brewer place, near Sulphur Springs Church and they lived there several years. About 1888 they moved to Conchatta, and lived there until about 1892 when they returned to their old home, where they continued to live until he died in 1913. After he died, his widow went to live with her daughter, Merle McCord, in Meridian, until she died in 1919. They were both buried in the Churchyard at Sulphur Springs. Their children are as follows:

MATTIE PETTEY, who was born in October 1879, married Walter Graham, October 15, 1897. Their family record is shown in the sketch of the descendants of J. D. Graham and Woodson Amis. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

ALBERT L. PETTEY, who was born in July 1881, married Elua Mae Horton, September 25, 1910. They have two children, Blanche Marie and Albert, Jr. Address, Conchatta, Miss.

AUDIE PETTEY, who was born in August 1883, married Grover C. Hamilton about 1912. They have one child, George Thomas. Address, Lawrence, Miss.

MERLE PETTEY, who was born in February 1886; married George C. McCord May 5, 1910. They have one child, Sarah. Address, 3812 Twelfth Street, Meridian, Miss.

F - SARAH ELIZABETH PETTEY, daughter of Albert G. Pettey and Luvenia Brewer, was born in September 1858 and married John B. Parks about 1874 or 1875. After their marriage they resided for a few years on a farm on the old Jackson road, adjoining his father's farm. About the year 1880 they sold the farm and moved to Philadelphia, in Neshoba County, where they lived for several years. Later they moved to Attalla County and settled on a farm, where she died in the fall of 1898 or 1899. Subsequently her husband re-married and now lives at Louisville, Miss. Their children are as follows:

TILDEN PARKS was born in 1876. He is married and lives at Fearn Springs, Miss. They have several children. He is a practicing physician.

THOMPIE PARKS was born in 1878. He never married. He was a lawyer at Hattiesburg and died when he was about thirty years old.

HATTIE LOU PARKS was born in 1881. She married Frank Kirby. She died a number of years ago. She did not leave any surviving children.

SADIE FLO PARKS was born in 1883. She married a man named Penny and lived at Pontotoc, Miss. They have several children.

ALBERT PARKS was born about 1885. He never married and is now dead.

VIRGIE MAY PARKS was born about 1887. She married her brother-in-law, Frank Kirby. She died in 1927. She had several children.

LAMAR PARKS was born about 1891. He is unmarried and lives in Arizona.

C - JOHN DAVIS PETTEY, son of Albert G. Pettey, and Luvenia Brewer, was born October 24, 1861. He married Mollie Nicholson, by whom he had one child, Miller Pettey. She died about 1890 and about two years later he married Mrs. Jennie Gully Pettey, a widow by whom he had six children. For some years he lived at Union, then later at Neshoba and for four years at Philadelphia, while he was Clerk of the Chancery Court. He now resides at Neshoba, Mississippi. His children are as follows:

MILLER PETTEY, who is married and lives at Philadelphia, Miss. He has two children.

MARKS PETTEY, who is married and lives at Philadelphia, Miss., He has two children.

DEWEY PETTEY, who is married and lives at Nesheba, Miss. He has two children.

GLADYS PETTEY, who is unmarried and lives in Memphis, Tennessee. She is a stenographer.

RUTH PETTEY, who is married and lives at Philadelphia, Miss. She had one child.

JENCINE PETTEY, who is unmarried and lives in Memphis, Tennessee. She is a stenographer.

LEROY PETTEY, who is unmarried and lives at Neshoba, Miss.

H - ALBERT G. PETTEY, JR., son of Albert G. Pettey and Luvenia Brewer, was born July 29, 1869. He married Emile Carson about 1903. After they married they lived at Conchatta, Miss., until 1924, when they moved to Lake, where she died in March 1925. About December 1926 he married Pearl Nester. He was a practicing physician and resided at Lake, where he died in 1929. His children are: Thomas, Christine, Mary Frances, Samuel, Luvenia, Clarence and Katio Ruth. Mary Frances married but died in 1932.

XXVII

THE LANGFORD FAMILY

The father of Dr. T. D. Langford was born in the earlier part of the last century and lived and died near Auburn, Alabama. He had two daughters, Scrap, who married William Langford, and settled near Linden, Alabama, and Emma, who married a man named Jeffreys. He had four sons, Thomas Davis, Henry, Joel and Philip. Philip married and settled in Montgomery and was a merchant there. Henry married and settled in Leake County, Miss. where he reared a large family, but I never knew any of them. Joel married and settled in Newton County, Miss. He had two daughters, Mollie, who married Dempsey Pace, and Sallie, who married Fred Weaver. Both are now dead. He had five sons, Bill, John, Eck, Henry and Charley, who went to Texas more than forty years ago and all trace of them is lost.

Dr. Thomas Davis Langford was born June 3, 1828. He studied medicine at Charleston, S. C., and graduated about 1856. Shortly afterward he came to Newton County, Miss. and located for the practice of his profession, making his headquarters at the old tavern home of Henry Wilson, on the Jackson and Livingston Stage Road. In 1859 he married Lucy Frances Wilson, daughter of Henry Wilson and Eliza Howe. After their marriage they continued to reside in the same community until 1871 when they moved to Anderson County, Texas, where they stayed two years, but becoming discouraged, returned and settled on a farm about a mile east of Conchatta in Newton County, Miss. They continued to reside there until about 1905 when they broke up housekeeping, sold the farm to their two sons, Willie and George, and went to live with their son Howard in Meridian. He died in March 1909 and she died in May 1910. They were both buried in the Methodist Churchyard at Conchatta. They had eleven children, who lived to be grown and married, as follows:

WILLIAM H. LANGFORD was born about 1861, and married Della Mitchell in December 1891. Some twenty years ago they moved to Arkansas, where he died. They had three children, Howard, Leon and Frank. Howard and Leon are dead and all trace of Frank is lost.

LARKIN D. LANGFORD was born about 1863 and married Ella Morgan Loper, widow of A. F. Loper, in the fall of 1891. They lived for a while at Lake, later at Gulfport and finally moved to Texas about twenty-five years ago. He died at Corpus Christi, Texas, about ten years ago. All trace of his family is lost.

ROBERT LANGFORD (Bobbie) was born in July 1865 and married Joseph A. Pace about 1884. They settled on a farm about four miles north of Lake, where they still reside. Their children are as follows:

FELIX PACE, married Nina Simmons. They lived at Madison Station, Miss. He died in August 1927. They have several children but their names are unknown.

EDNA PACE, married Bill Mabry. They live near Lake, and have several children.

MARVIN PACE, married Lilla Clark. He died eight or ten years ago. They had two children. She lives at Lake.

FOREST PACE, lived to be grown. He died at the A. & M., College in his senior year there.

VERNON PACE graduated at A. & M. College. He married Ruth Cox and they have three children. They live at Starkville, Miss.

LUCY PACE, married Reuben Kelley. They live near Lake and have several children.

TAIMAGE PACE married May Clerk. They live near Lake and have several children.

NANNIE LEE PACE, married Dock Clark. They live near Lake and have several children.

ANNIE LOIS PACE is unmarried and lives with her parents.

MARY S. LANGFORD, born February 1, 1868. Married Bobbet Amis. They live at 1203-38th Avenue, Meridian, Miss. They have six children, whose record is shown in the sketch of the Amis family.

HOWARD LANGFORD, born about 1870, married Ina Bailey. She died in 1892. They had one adopted child, Jack. Howard lives at Newton, Miss.

LULA LANGFORD, born about 1872, married Mack Russell in 1892. She died about twenty years ago. They had one child, Ethel, who is married and, at last accounts, was living near Corpus Christi, Texas.

ROBERT LEE LANGFORD, born about 1874, married Mrs. Ethel Brown. They have no children. He is a conductor on the Southern Ry. and lives at 1926 23rd Avenue, Meridian, Miss.

LOIS LANGFORD, born about 1877, married Will Bass. They had four children, Willie Davis, Hubbard, Maurice and Howard. She died in 1932. Her husband lives at Corinth, Miss.

GEORGE LANGFORD, born about 1878, married Alma Blackburn. They live at Conchatta, Miss., and have a number of children.

ERNEST LANGFORD, born about 1881. Married but separated from his wife and never had any children. He died several years ago.

HERBERT LANGFORD, born about 1883, graduated at the A. & M. College. He married May Curtis. They have five children, all boys, and live at Shreveport, Miss.

XXVIII

THE WILSON FAMILY

Henry Wilson was the father of Mrs. Lucy Frances Langford. I do not know when or where he was born, but he was one of the pioneer settlers of Newton County. His wife was Eliza Howe, and long before the Civil War they settled on the old Jackson and Livingston Stage Road about a mile east of the present village of Greenfield in Newton County. For many years he kept a stage stand and tavern for travellers by stage. During the Civil War, Sherman's Army burnt his home, gin, barns and other property and carried him off as a prisoner but soon released him. He and his wife are both long since dead and his farm is now owned by his great-grandson, Thomas Wilson, Jr. His children are as follows:

MARY WILSON, married Enos Hathaway and are now both long since dead. They had one child, a daughter named Tommie, who married Will Pace. She is now dead and he lives at Lake. They have several children and grand-children.

LARKIN WILSON, married Betty Anderson. He died about fifty years ago. His widow is still living on the old home. They had four children, as follows:

THOMAS WILSON, who married Ora Vance, who died more than thirty years ago. They had one child, Thomas, Jr., who is married and lives on the old Wilson homestead. Thomas, Sr., died in 1933.

ANNIE WILSON, who married Jack Hembree. They live near Bay Springs, Miss., and have several children.

JOHN WILSON, who married Laura Pace. They live near Yazoo City, Miss., and have several children.

LARKIE WILSON, a daughter. She has never married and lives with her mother.

GEORGIA WILSON married Joseph Spear. They have both been dead for many years. They had one child, Georgia, who married Pate Finlayson. She lives in Hattiesburg, Miss., but he is dead. They had several children.

LUCY FRANCES WILSON, born in 1841, married Dr. T. D. Langford in 1859; she died in May 1910. The record of her children is given in the sketch of the Langford family.

PALLIE WILSON, a daughter, never married. Lives at Lake.

JEFFIE WILSON, a daughter, never married, and is long since dead.

XXIX

COPIES OF OLD FAMILY DOCUMENTS

LODGE ROOM.

Hillsboro, Miss.

March 25th, 1849.

On motion of Bro. T. M. Petty, W. D. Eastland, C. Boyd and T. M. Petty were appointed a committee to make suitable arrangements to attend the funeral of our beloved brother J. W. Amis and to draft suitable resolutions of our regret at his loss. Whereupon the committee made the following report:

WHEREAS it has pleased the Grand Architect of the Universe to remove from earth our beloved Bro. John W. Amis, on 4th day of February last, therefore:

1st: Resolved that we deeply lament our loss which we conceive to be an irretrievable one.

2nd: Resolved that we will remember and cherish the virtues of our departed brother while we throw the veil of charity over his faults.

3rd: Resolved that we condole with the afflicted family who have lost a kind and indulgent husband, a fond and doting father and a generous protector.

4th; Resolved that we wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

5th: Resolved that a copy of these resolutions, signed by the worshipful Master and countersigned by the Secretary, be transmitted to the distressed family

of our deceased brother, as well as a copy to the "Eastern Clarion" and "Gallatin Argus" for publication.

6th: Resolved that we assemble at the late residence of our brother on Thursday before the 4th Saturday in April next, to attend his funeral; that Bro. J. D. Abney be requested to deliver the funeral sermon that our Sister Lodges at Decatur, Carthage, Garlandville and Philadelphia, be invited to meet us on that occasion.

On Motion, the preceding resolutions were unanimously adopted.

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Hillsboro, Miss.

March 25th, 1849

Mrs. Martha Amis,-

In accordance with one of the foregoing resolutions, we send you this copy of them, desiring you to be assured that you and family shall ever be objects of our care and solicitude, and that we sincerely condole with you in this afflicting dispensation of Providence.

D. V. Jones, W. M.

J. W. Wofford, Secretary.

LETTERS OF ALBERT G. AMIS TO HIS MOTHER
WRITTEN DURING THE CIVIL WAR IN 1864 AND 1865

The originals are now in my possession. Two of them are written in ink and one in pencil. They are old and faded and in some places, scarcely legible. The paper is of fair quality but is yellowing with age. The first one is written on a half sheet of old time note paper and the other two on a full folded sheet of note paper. Every bit of space on all the letters is covered with writing, as though paper was scarce or else he could not stop writing as long as his paper held out.

Camp near Rome, Georgia

May 14th, 1864.

Mrs. Martha Amis,--

My Dear Mother:

It is with pleasure I seat myself to pen you a few lines to let you know where I am and how I am getting along. I am well, with the exception of my feet. They are just like they were when I left. We were on the road 13 days, and I have just got here. I am now 400 miles from home. We are camped at Rome, Ga. on the Coosa River, but are expecting orders to move all the time. I hear cannons in the direction of Dalton now. They have been fighting several days. I expect the regular engagement has commenced. We are about 40 miles from where they are fighting. Oh those cannons do sound so mournful, but I am in hopes this will soon be decided. I think the infantry is engaged now. They say Johnson has fallen back to Osyka, and they are fighting there, but the news is not reliable. But I will know how it comes out soon. If I live to get through it, I think I will get off just as soon as this fight is over, until I cure my feet. I have suffered a good deal with them since I started. I have got me a good horse now, if I can get corn for him. I only gave fifty dollars to boot all around. I came by to see Tank and Dock, but Tank was gone up in North Alabama, conscripting. I saw Dock and Cal. They are all well. Tell Woot that Dock is coming up here where I am. I must close for the present hoping to hear from you soon. Direct your letters to Rome, Ga. I am your most dutiful son.

A. G. Amis

On battle field near Cross Plains, Ala.

Oct. 2nd, 1864

Mrs. Martha Amis,-

My Dear Mother:

It is with greatest pleasure I seat myself to drop you a few lines to let you know how and where I am. I am well at this time and near Cross Plains, Alabama and I hope this may find you all well and enjoying yourselves. You may know that I am not enjoying myself so well for we have been fighting all day. We got one man wounded in our company for the first time since we came to this department. His name is J. H. Stribling of Hillsboro. He received a wound in his left breast which I think will prove fatal, but hope for the better. I brought him off the field by myself. The Federals have gone back and I am sitting in sight of the battle ground. It is all over for this day and I hope forever.

The reason I am writing you at this time, Capt. Martin is going home on furlough. We are ordered to move and I will quit for the present. -- Well, I will finish my letter, as we only moved to our camp for the night. As I spoke of above, Capt. Martin got a leave of absence for 20 days to go home after the men, and clothing for what is here. So you can send me my clothing by him. He will send this to you and let you know when he will start back, so you can send me all I want. Oh I wish I could go myself, so I could have a coat made to fit me. But you all can make it to fit well enough. And as for the buttons, you can send it without any and I will put these I have on it. You can work the button holes and I will finish it or get some of these Alabama girls to fix it for me.

Well I will tell you what I want, - 1 coat, one pair pants, 1 pair drawers, 2 shirts and 2 pair of socks and my old gray jacket. And if you have got my blanket yet, you must be sure and send it for I have not got but one and I will need it this Winter. Tell Frances to make me another hussy and send 2 needles and some thread to sew the buttons on my coat. You must brand everything you send me so I will know them. And mother, if you can have me a pair of shoes made I would like to have them as my boots have failed.

And you must sell some or all of my meat hogs and get the money and pay what I owe. There is one note of \$30.00 that Irvin Miller holds against me I would like to have settled. If you can, sell some of my hogs and pay it, if any of them are left. That note is for \$30.00 with interest from the first of May. I wrote Baby about it, but it is uncertain whether she gets the letter. If you get the money, you just hand it to Irvin Miller and tell him that I sent it to him or that I want to take up that note he has, or just pay him and tell him to destroy it, for I think Confederate money will soon go down and I would have it to pay in specie.

We got two men killed today and several wounded, but we killed and wounded more of the enemy, for we got the Battle field and several of their dead and wounded. But it is all over now and they have gone back, so I will quit for this time. Mother, you must have my shoes made nice and to order, No. 7^s.

I am your son,

A. G. Amis.

In Camp, near Eli, South Carolina

March 18, 1865.

Mrs. Martha Amis,-

My dear Mother:

As I have a chance to send you a letter by hand, I will try and write you a few lines to let you know how and where I am. I am at Eli Station, on the Greenville Columbia R. R., in camp, but expect to leave here soon. We have not done anything since the fall of Savannah, but I do not know how long it will be before we have some active service on hand. We are left here merely as a guard for Augusta, but we are subject to orders at any time to leave this State. I can hear a thousand reports about us going to Miss., and can hear of the enemy being there every month or two. I am in hopes the former may be true and the latter untrue.

Well, I reckon you have given out ever seeing me any more as I have written to you so often I was coming, and failed. Mother, I would be ready and willing at any time to start home, but the reason I do not get off is there are not but a few officers in our Regiment, and the General says he will not let any more off until some of them return. But you may rest assured I will come just as soon as opportunity will permit, for I am more than anxious to see you all.

Well, I will send you some money as I have a chance to send it by one of our company. I will send it by A. W. Barfoot, Mrs. Auburn's son. I have been threatening to send it several times and I want you to settle all of my debts for me. I will send you two hundred dollars, and you must pay all I owe, if you have a chance. John Adams, of our Company, has got my note for \$40.00. He lives near Union. You can get Betty to settle it for me when she goes to her Pa's; that is, if he does not come back to the Company. If he comes back to the Company, I can settle it. But you must not put yourself to any extraordinary trouble about that, for I will get off some time this year and I can fix it up. You must not pay any of my debts unless you get my notes or a good receipt. I would send you more, but I may get off myself and I may need it to bear my expense. Do the best you can and I will do the same.

I am in fair health and enjoying myself as well as any soldier can with the hardships we have to undergo. My horse jumped off a butment of a bridge with me and like to broke me in two, but I have about got over it. That was done about the 20th of February. Write to me by the boys when they come back. Write me all the news and give my love to all the relatives and friends, and for yourself, my dear mother, receive the best wishes of your son.

A. G. Amis, Co. K.

N. B. Write me where Tank is and Dock. Your son,

A. G. Amis.

I do not need anything this time, I am going to try to get off about the 10th of July.

A. G. Amis.

But long before July came, the War was over and this Confederate Soldier, who for four long years had fought a losing fight, in the words of Henry Grady, "surrendered his gun, pulled down his cap over an undaunted brow, buttoned his old gray jacket, around a heart of gold, and turned his face homeward." And I know from his own lips, that like the brave and generous soldier he was, he harbored no malice against his foe. But when the war was over, he accepted the result in all good faith and sincerity, as brave and good men did everywhere.

Among my father's old papers, I found some verses written on a single sheet of sky-blue paper, in his handwriting and subscribed by him. I do not know whether it was his own composition or not. It may be a mere copy. I never heard that he wrote verse, but there is no telling what a young soldier might do. I have never seen the verses in print, though some twenty years ago I examined a book of Civil War poems, edited by a New Yorker, whose name I do not remember. However, as he was still fighting the rebels, as he called them, he might have purposely omitted the verses, even if he had known of them. Whether they were original or a mere copy they are worthy of a little printer's

ink, to show the high hopes of the boys in gray, in the earlier part of the struggle. They are as follows:

SOUTHERN VERSION OF "ROOT HOG OR DIE."

Old Abe Lincoln keeps kicking up a fuss,
I think He'd better stop it, for he'll only make it worse;
We'll have our Independence, I'll tell you the reason why,
Jeff Davis will make 'em sing, root hog or die.

When Lincoln went to reinforce Sumpter for the fight
He told his men to pass through the harbour in the night;
He said to them be careful, I tell you the reason why
The Southern boys are mighty bad, on root hog or die.

Then Beauregard called a halt, according to the style
The Lincolnites faced about and looked mighty wild;
They could not give the pass word, I'll tell you the reason why,
Beauregard's countersign, was Root hog or die.

They anchored out a battery upon the waters free
It was the queerest looking thing, that ever you did see,
It was the fall of Sumpter, I'll tell you the reason why,
It was the Southern Alphabet, of Root hog or die.

They telegraphed to Abraham, they took her like a flirt,
They underscored another line, "there was nobody hurt."
We are bound to have the Capitol, I'll tell you the reason why,
We want to teach old Abe to sing, Root hog or die.

When Abram read the dispatch the tears came to his eye,
He walled his eyes to Bobby and Bob began to cry,
They prayed for Jeff to spare 'em, I'll tell you the reason why,
They didn't want to "mark time" to Root hog or die.

The "Kentucky Braves" at Trenton, are eager for the fight,
They want to help the Southern Boys to set old Abram right,
They had to leave their native state, I'll tell you the reason why,
Old Kentucky wouldn't sign, Root hog or die.

A. G. Amis.

S T A T E M E N T

This is to certify that the sixty-three bound pages constitute a true and correct copy of the original Sketches and Data of the Amis, Brewer, Pettey, Langsford and Wilson Families of Newton County, Mississippi by A. B. Amis, Sr.

This is also to certify that the Frontispiece, a picture of Martha Wadkins Amis (Old Mother) was omitted because no picture or cut was available, and that a few minor changes were made in the format.

Dred D. Gordy

Effie Sue McAmis

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 6 day of July 1957.

Lydian M. Pennington
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 8/19/60

